

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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An Independent Christian Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness and Formalism.

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The Lost Axe-Head

By late Evangelist J. Wilbur Chapman, D.D.

Text: "And the man of God said, Where fell it? And he showed him the place. And he cut down a stick, and cast it in thither; and the iron did swim."—2 Kings 6:6.

But you say, "Wait a moment. Iron will not swim." You may say that I cast a piece of iron into the water and saw it sink like lead, and you may say that the statement of the text is contrary to all natural laws. And then, you might go on to assume that if this text is untrue, the story of Elisha may be untrue; and if you take Elisha out of the Old Testament you can very easily part company with Elijah.

But you have, evidently, forgotten the statement of the text: "And the man of God said." We are not dealing to-day with natural law; we are dealing with the supernatural, and I am presenting to you a story out of a book in which the marvelous is always

coming to pass. I should think it would be a very easy thing to make an axe-head swim as compared with holding the winds in your fist, and God can do that.

I should think it would be a very trifling matter to bring a bit of iron to the surface of the water when compared with holding the seas in the hollow of your hand, and God can do that. The iron did swim. God said it in His Word, and God always speaks the truth. I like the setting of the text. The house of the sons of the prophets seems to have been too small and so the sons of the prophets go out to secure material for its enlargement. It is a kind of cooperative piece of work, and these men, as they go along, are carrying axes, and with the axes they are chopping down the trees. One man seems to be poorer than the others, for he is working with a borrowed axe. It may be that the laborer himself was overzealous—we do not know—but when he was working away, chopping his tree, suddenly the axe-

(Continued on page 8)



Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman

Prize Winner in Sword \$1,000 Evangelistic Sermon Contest

The Sin God Cannot Forgive

By Evangelist Ken Chapman

921 West Main Street, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

"And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief."—Matt. 13:58.

"I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins."—John 8:24.

"Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To Day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin."—Heb. 3:12, 13.

There are many ideas about the sin that God cannot forgive. Some think it is murder. However, God forgave men in the Bible who had committed that sin. Others think that adultery cannot be forgiven, but listen to the Lord. Let us see what He says:

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."—Isa. 1:18.

"Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the

kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God."—I Cor. 6:9-11.

So we see that none of the sins that men commit with their bodies is unpardonable. But the wicked sin of unbelief is the sin which causes men to commit all other sin.

The wicked sin of unbelief is the only sin which God cannot and will not forgive. The person who dies and goes out to meet his Maker without believing in Jesus Christ as personal Saviour is doomed for all eternity.

Jesus refused to perform mighty works because of unbelief. It is because of unbelief that Jesus does not do a mighty work of grace in every soul. Every person in the world could and would be saved if he would only "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ."



Kenneth Chapman

Unbelief is the sin which blocks the power of God, prevents regeneration, puts to naught the power of the cleansing blood, ruins lives, breaks hearts and results in everlasting torment.

I. The Origin of Unbelief

The sin of unbelief originated in the heart of Satan while he held

(Continued on page 11)

Don't Forget Front-Line Soldiers!

To Neglect Lonely, Harassed, Endangered Soldiers in Korea is a Sin; What About Those in Christ's Front-line Trenches

By the Editor

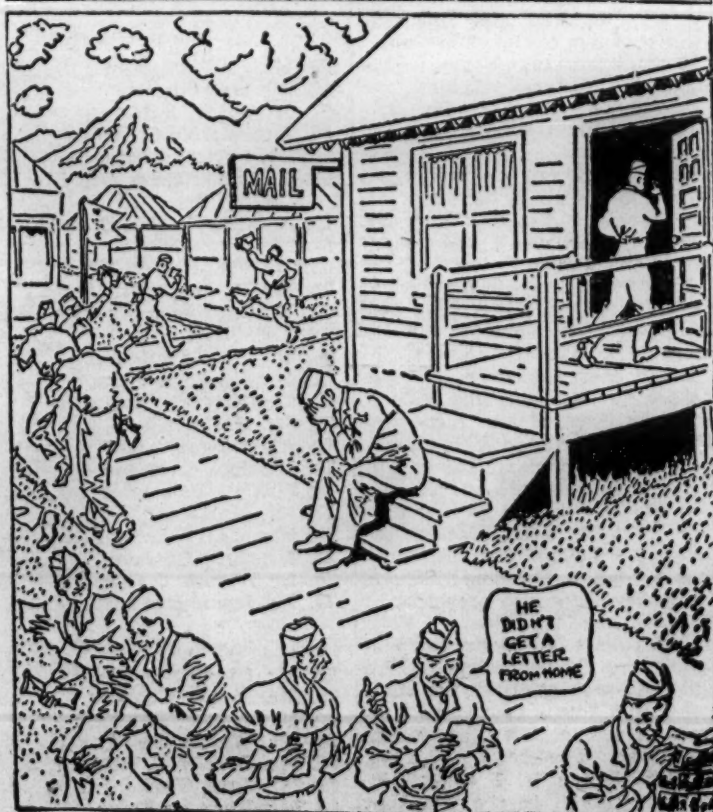
You saw in THE SWORD of the LORD not long ago pictures of Billy Graham preaching to American soldiers and Koreans, or dealing with converts in war-torn Korea. He found our soldiers unusually approachable, hungry-hearted. Those dear men and boys are far from home, their very lives are in danger, and they feel very keenly their lonely position.

A few months ago I had a letter from an American soldier in Korea. He wished I would put a note in THE SWORD. He was hungry for some regular touch with the homeland. Another boy wrote asking me to get in touch with his wife for him, and I judge he felt forgotten and neglected. Another soldier, sitting in an ammunition truck wrote telling how he had picked up a copy of the booklet, "What Must I Do to be Saved?" and with nowhere to go and no one to talk to in his spare time, he had read the booklet through and his hungry heart found Christ and peace amid loneliness.

I urge every mother, every wife, every sister, every intimate friend of a soldier boy in the front battle lines in Korea to write him frequently. Pray for him. Make sure that he does not feel that his sacrifice, his giving up of plans for education, or marriage, or business, his offering his life on

(Continued on page 7)

ONE OF THE HARDSHIPS OF WAR



From The Tribune, July 2, 1945

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A CHRISTIAN, AS A CANDLE, MUST KEEP COOL AND BURN AT THE SAME TIME

THAT I MIGHT NOT SIN

One night Stephen Merrit, gave a supper in his mission to which he had invited all the outcast and homeless men he could find. After the gathering, he picked up his hat to go and found that some of the men, as a prank, had half filled his hat with bacon rinds, pieces of crusts and bones.

He was so furious that he immediately mounted a chair and stormed at the tramps, threatened to call the police and further berated them for their ingratitude. . . . Then suddenly there flashed through his mind, "Love suffereth long and is kind . . . is not easily provoked . . . beareth all things. . ."

Struck by the sin he had committed, he promptly apologized in all humility, telling them that he knew he had grieved the Lord. He then invited them back to another supper the following night.

Moved by his humility, they returned the next night—and 40 accepted Christ.

—KEITH BROOKS

IF JESUS BORE THE CROSS AND DIED ON IT FOR ME, OUGHT I NOT BE WILLING TO TAKE IT UP FOR HIM?

—Dwight L. Moody

A BETTER LIKENESS SOON

Spurgeon received one day a copy of Andrew Bonar's Commentary on Leviticus. It so blessed him that he returned it, saying: "Dr. Bonar, please place herein your autograph and your photograph." The book was returned to him with the following note from the pen of Dr. Bonar: "Dear Spurgeon, here is the book with my autograph and with

(Continued on page 3)

Preaching ~ Power ~ Promotion



"... the word of the Lord. . . Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."—Zech. 4:6

By Dr. D. A. (Scotchie) McCall
Minister of Revival Promotion,
Sword of the Lord Foundation

I saw a little Methodist woman set her heart after a man 72 years-of age to win him to Christ. He was elderly beyond his years for he had lived a life of sin. Her husband was a member of our church, though he never attained unto the spirituality of his wife. The wife of the elderly man of 72 was a member of our church but unable to win her husband to Christ. She said many people had prayed for him for years.

I saw this little Methodist woman as she would go by for the elderly lost man, bringing him to church, and seeing him back home. The last Sunday morning as I spoke on "The Sin That Will Not Be Forgiven," and threw out God's invitation, I saw a sight that must have started a Thanksgiving service in Heaven. She plucked at the arm of the 72 year old, and led a feeble man down the aisle as he confessed Christ. Others were saved—all of them much younger—but all were saved by the same Lord Jesus Christ and in the same way—"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them" (Eph. 2:8-10).

II

The Way of Victory

"And they stood every man in his place round about the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled."—Judges 7:21.

1. Every person has a place in God's way of life. Every baby born into the world has a place in the economy of God's government of this earth and in Heaven. Find it! Fill it! Follow it! Finish in it! It is the best way, the happy way, the victorious way. John 14:1-6.

2. "Every man"—"in his place"—"stood." Cooperation: "We are workers together with God." (II Cor. 6:1). One drop of rain would never turn a water mill-wheel. But, millions of them form a torrent and rushing against that water wheel turn the machinery

grinding corn, and sawing logs. A drop of dew would never do much in conditioning the ground, but a blanket of dew freshens the earth.

God wants thousands upon thousands of helpers, workers, builders, givers, and supporters in His service.

3. Faithfulness—the 300 of Gideon's band kept at it until victory was won, until the task was complete, until the work was done!

They chart the way for us in Him!

III

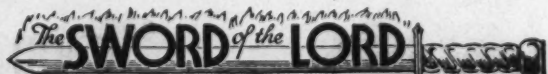
On Friday night, March 31, 1939, a flood from a rain storm tore away a span of U. S. Highway 80 bridge at the Big Black River. One auto after another plunged into the raging torrent until some eighteen persons were drowned. A man who went into it swam out and tried to stop some cars. He must have seemed a mad man to them as he stood out in the darkness and rain. He had pulled off his white shirt and was waving it for them to stop. He heard the screams of some as they went off the broken bridge. Finally, he said to himself, "I am going to stop the next one or they will have to run over me." He did stop the next car. A man and his daughter got out of the car. When they saw what they had been saved from, you may imagine their appreciation and the daughter put her coat about the one who had that night saved them from a watery grave.

This incident doubly impressed me because that night I was filling an engagement at Cleveland, Mississippi, and drove back to Clinton, Mississippi. I had to choose between travelling two major highways, namely U. S. 61 and U. S. 80, or a group of shorter secondary highways. I chose the latter, otherwise I would have been travelling at that time U. S. 80 between Vicksburg and Clinton where the tragedies occurred. The next day I soberly viewed the scene.

There are some striking suggestions that may be helpful to some.

1. None of these people intended

(Continued on page 6)



AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING REVIVAL WEEKLY

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THE EDITOR'S Notes by John R. Rice

Thank all of you for the flood of mail coming during Letter-Month. May God bless you. We want to hear from you!

Save Dates for Sword Conferences

Thousands will want to mark dates on their calendars for some of these conferences sponsored by THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

1. Special Working Conference, June 14—21, at Bill Rice's Ranch, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. A full half-day will be spent each day in construction work on the conference buildings and grounds. Those who do four hours solid work daily will be furnished meals and cots. Brother Bill has asked me to speak daily at noon. The evening messages at 6:45 and 8:00 p.m. will be by Dr. Lee Roberson, Pastor Woodrow Medlock, Evangelist Bill Rice, etc. I will teach the Bible, show how to make sermons, how to use the Scriptures in soul winning, how to have revivals, God willing.

2. Sword of the Lord Conference on Revival and Soul Winning at First Baptist Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas, June 21-26. Speakers here will include, God willing, Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.; Dr. Herschel Ford, First Baptist Church, El Paso; Dr. J. Harold Smith, Dr. D. A. McCall, Evangelist Bill Rice and Editor John R. Rice. A life-transforming program, top event of the year for thousands!

3. Sword of the Lord Conference on Revival and Soul Winning, Lake Louise, Toccoa, Georgia, July 6-12. Speakers here to include, God willing, Dr. Lee Roberson, Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., Dr. Jesse M. Hendley, Evangelist Bill Rice, Dr. D. A. McCall, Evangelist John R. Rice. Attendance this year will reach an all-time high, we think, overflowing all the facilities. Save the date.

4. Sword of the Lord Conference on Revival and Soul Winning, Bill Rice Ranch, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, July 12-19. Big program, horses to ride, very moderate expenses, nationally-known speakers.

Full information on all these conferences will be prepared in folder form, not yet ready. These folders will be announced in THE SWORD OF THE LORD a little later. Don't write us yet for information—keep record of these dates and save your time. Arrange your vacations, etc.

At Two Great Schools in April

The editor will speak at Bob Jones University Annual Bible Conference, April 2—5, (the last half of the eight-day period). What a thrill it always is to speak to those three thousand students, the one hundred and fifty-nine faculty members and the seventy-odd staff workers! Some twelve hundred ministerial students are required to subscribe for THE SWORD OF THE LORD, to read and report on two sermons per week from THE SWORD OF THE LORD. It is a joy to be on the cooperating board of this great University, and to go each year, when possible, to speak there.

April 19-26 we go to the Annual Bible Conference of the Tennessee Temple Schools, and the Highland Park Baptist Church, at Chattanooga, Tennessee. Dr. Lee Roberson, president and pastor. Here six hundred and forty students are studying in Bible School, College and Seminary. The crowds are tremendous. About 95 per cent of the students go into full-time Christian work. Besides the Tennessee Temple Schools, there is a Christian Grammar School. Dr. Roberson is also president of Zion College for Negroes. The church runs a downtown city rescue mission the year round, where hundreds are saved. In the summer Camp Joy is opened to hundreds of poor children, and many are saved. The Highland Park Baptist Church is, I think, the greatest church in the world in soul-winning activity and I always enjoy tremendously the fellow-

(Continued on page 11)

These 519 Saved in 1952 Through Sword Literature

Here we Give Names of those Who Wrote That They Found Christ Through the SWORD OF THE LORD or Our Books and Pamphlets in English During the Last Year.

Previously we reported 509 saved through Sword Literature in 1952. However, we found that we had counted husbands and wives together, so really there were ten more—519.

We give the records by months. Don't you believe this record entitles the Sword to your support? Will you help our building Fund or our Free Literature Fund?

We do not give the addresses, both for lack of space and because we find many false cults would contact the new converts to distress them or mislead them.

Saved in January

- Miss Eva Booker
- Miss Dorothy M. Howland
- Mr. Everett Hutchins
- Mr. Carl E. Wascher
- Mr. Warren D. Bradley
- Mr. Dale McKee
- Mr. John Henry Cook
- Mr. Russell C. Bailey
- Mr. William Bishop
- Mr. Billy Mathis
- Mr. Hildred Cooper
- Mr. Robert Sanders
- Mr. Pete Perez
- Mr. Frank B. Mahoney
- Mr. John L. Stanlen
- Etti Sunday Imose
- Juan Buemtia Forstony
- Shirley Campbell
- Mr. Alex Hornocker
- Leonardo C. Notarte
- Mrs. Freda B. Rowland
- Mr. Masato Akasaka
- Mr. Peter Bubecker
- Mrs. David S. McClelland
- Mr. Reginald McLeod
- Mrs. William Stortz
- Mr. James L. Rich
- Mrs. Nettie Renfroe
- Mr. Adline Rolle
- Mrs. Elia Rae Harmon
- Miss Marjorie Baxter
- Mrs. J. Denning
- Mr. Virgil Farris
- Mr. Herman Rohder
- Mr. Arthur A. Haggstrom
- Mr. R. D. Stanley
- Mr. Ray Prawucki
- Mr. Donald Kring
- Mr. Arthur Carter
- Mr. Oran Patrick
- Mr. Ralph Garcia
- Mr. Leonard Lowder
- Mr. Basil Fletcher
- Mr. Paul Amber
- Mr. James Howard
- Miss Wanda Wiggins
- Mr. Joseph Kujawa
- Mrs. Joseph Kujawa
- Mr. Richard Campbell
- Mrs. Helen Marie Casey
- Man reported by Miss Pearl Elliott
- Mrs. Lucy Simpson
- Mrs. Clara Phillips
- Mr. David Aguilera

Saved in February

- Mr. Earl Erisman
- Mr. Onie Spencer
- Miss June Pettit
- Mrs. Myrtle C. Gomer
- Dr. Loyaram Pegu
- Railroad man reported by Mr. C. C. Dee
- Miss Gloria Gail Brown
- Mrs. Cora Partin
- Mr. Frank A. Delucca
- Mr. R. W. Burns
- Man reported by Mrs. Wm. E. Richmond
- Mr. Herman Reeves
- Mrs. Maybell Turner
- Mr. Amauri Acosta
- Mr. H. C. Gale
- Pfc. Gabor A. Iski
- Mr. Jack L. Hilton
- Miss Patricia Love
- Mr. N. Roe
- Mrs. Lottie Leclair
- Mr. Jack Graham
- Lt. William J. Gilmore
- Mr. Lewie E. Faust

Saved in March

- Mr. Chester Oldfield
- Mr. Morley Cookson
- Mrs. Albert Robinson
- Mr. Walton Dowdy
- Mr. Charles E. Howard
- Mr. John Cleavenger
- Mr. Kenneth Euler
- Mr. Goldman Gann
- Mr. Wilbur Hoshaw
- Mr. Gordon Jackson

Saved in April

- Mr. Weldon Burris
- Mr. Benjamin Towksjhea
- Mr. Doyle L. Martin
- Mr. Vern Gragg
- Mr. J. Shultz
- Mrs. J. Shultz
- Miss Beatrice King
- Mr. Herman Pomerleau
- Mr. F. B. Cessna
- Mr. Melvin Ingole
- Mr. Worth Collins
- Mr. Astes Watts
- Mr. Roy F. Bollow
- Mr. Isom Ridgeway
- Rev. C. L. Moreland
- Mr. James A. Toney
- Miss Marcella Basham
- Rev. H. R. Land
- Mr. L. W. Redman
- Miss Juanita Jesson
- Mr. Mike McGhee
- Pfc. James L. Olson
- Miss Helen Hahn
- Mr. Bunyan H. Rains
- Mrs. Roger Sausser
- Mr. O. C. Williams
- Mrs. Betty G. Robinson
- Mr. John T. Casey
- Miss Mary Jane Brakey
- Mr. Salvador Eduarte
- Mr. Asa Martin
- Mr. Oscar R. Hess
- Mr. S. R. Mensah
- Mr. Gertrudis Alarcon Cordoba
- Mr. Wilfred Greencorn
- Woman, husband, and father-in-law reported saved by
- Warren Kerr
- Man reported by Mr. Stuart Swiger
- Man reported by Mr. Harold Walcott
- Three people reported by
- Miss Kathryn Green
- 150.
- Mr. Elias W. LeGrand
- Dr. J. M. Garland
- Mr. Raymond Rinera
- Mrs. Georgia F. Jones
- Mr. G. C. Deicher
- Mrs. Katherine Wazelle
- Mrs. Laurence Heller
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- Mr. O. C. Powell
- Mr. Mike Kolasa
- Mr. Walter Killingworth
- Mr. Carl Long
- Mr. J. W. Tidwell
- Mr. Leophus Jinton Mounted
- Miss Oneida Birkholz
- Mr. Herschel Armstrong
- Mr. Francisco Sanchez
- Mr. Sergi Chark
- Mr. Luis Herman
- Mr. Jack Rapee
- Mr. Albino Barbosa
- Miss Angel B. Gomis
- Miss Joan Houston
- Mr. Halford O. Usiagwu
- Mr. John R. O. Iyayah
- Mr. Raymond E. Egbedi
- Mr. Mark N. Yobane
- Mrs. Myrtle Ifkoluk
- Mr. Sampson Buabeng
- Mr. Howard Davis

Saved in May

- Mrs. H. C. Stanley
- Mrs. Stanley Wheeler
- Mr. Elrie M. Cooper
- Mrs. G. T. Horne
- Mr. Ronald Weinelt
- Mr. George Gosling

(Continued on page 6)

"Many Infallible Proofs" of Christ's Resurrection

By Evangelist John R. Rice

"Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; . . . For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures; And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once: of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time."—I Cor. 15: 1, 3-8.

"To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God."—Acts 1:3.

Praise God we can believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ! This fundamental doctrine of Christianity has nothing to fear from honest investigation, from intelligent consideration. The facts are so overwhelming they have convinced millions of people. They will convince you, if you investigate the matter with an honest heart. The evidence is overwhelming.

Acts 1:2, 3 says that Christ gave commandments unto the apostles whom He had chosen, "To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." The Bible claims that Jesus showed Himself alive, "by many infallible proofs." Any honest heart should consider those evidences which the Bible calls infallible.

The Lord Jesus Himself drew near and walked with two disciples on the road to Emmaus, the day of His resurrection from the dead. Their eyes were holden, and they did not know who He was. He asked them why they were so cast down, and they told Him that Jesus was dead. Some of the women had been to the tomb and said that they had seen a vision of angels who said Jesus was risen from the dead, but they did not believe it. To these doubters of His resurrection, on that resurrection day, Jesus said, "O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?" (Luke 24:25, 26). Then He began at Genesis and continuing with the other books of Moses and

all the prophets, "he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself." Jesus speaking particularly of His own resurrection, said that anyone is a fool and slow of heart to believe, if he does not accept the word of the Scriptures.

This one crowning evidence of the truth of Christianity is credible and reasonable, and the only people who do not believe it are those who have hearts which are, because of their own prejudice or desire, slow to believe the Bible, slow to listen to God's Word. Only bias, prejudice, or wicked attitude make people doubt the resurrection of Christ. We will consider some of this evidence. And the more you study it, the more you read the Bible, the more you see the effect of the Bible Christianity in changing lives and hearts and society, the more you are bound to be impressed with infallible evidence that Christ rose from the dead.

Jesus said, "If any man willeth to do his will, he shall know of the teaching, whether it is of God, or whether I speak from myself" (John 7:17 R.V.). The same verse, in the new Confraternity translation of the New Testament by Catholic scholars says, "If anyone desires to do his will, he will know of the teaching whether it is from God, or whether I speak on my own authority." Anyone who really wants to know the truth about Christ and His resurrection will find out. God will help him to know the truth. The evidence will be overwhelming, if the heart attitude is right as one studies the matter.

The Character and Person of Christ Make It Easy to Believe in His Resurrection

The proven character of Christ makes His resurrection from the dead easy to believe. He claimed to be deity, one with the Father. In the books of Isaiah, Matthew, and Luke, very specific claim is made that He was born of a virgin, supernaturally conceived by the Holy Spirit. All the references to Christ in the Old Testament and the New presuppose that He is God incarnate, that He is the God-man. That such an one, God come in the flesh, should prove His deity by rising from the dead is sensible and believable. Those who do not believe in Christ's deity started their unbelief far earlier than that; they do not believe in Christ Himself.

Who is there in all human history like Christ? His personality, His moral purity, His spiritual insight, His overwhelming wisdom,



Dr. John R. Rice

set Him apart as the only one of His kind. Jesus Christ is absolutely unique. When we compare with Him Socrates, or Buddha, or Mohammed, or Gandhi, or Lenin, or Shakespeare, or Napoleon, or Washington, or Lincoln, or Roosevelt, we find that there is no comparison. The sages, the intelligent, the learned of the world are children beside His wisdom. Their moral codes and systems are fragmentary and inadequate beside His sayings. The heroes of the world have their faults and frailties and it is taken for granted that Jesus Christ has neither fault nor frailty. He could boldly challenge His critics, "Which of you convinceth me of sin?" (John 8:46). If Jesus Christ said He would rise from the dead, then sensible people will believe it.

The Bible Has Proven Itself Credible, so Its Account of the Resurrection Can Be Believed

The inspiration of the Bible, the deity of Christ, and Christ's bodily resurrection from the dead all stand or fall together. If the Bible be true, then the resurrection of Christ can be accepted by sensible people as a fact. And, thank God, the evidence is overwhelming for the authenticity and divine inspiration and infallibility of the Bible.

Scientists in every field that touches the Bible and the statements the Bible makes are continually accumulating evidence that the Bible can be trusted. The Bible is scientifically accurate. Ten times in Genesis, chapter one, it is declared that animals and plants are to bring forth after their kind. That is, there will be variation within the species only. Scientists have never been able to break this rule. They have never seen any new species started. The Scripture says that "the life of the flesh is in the blood" (Lev. 17:11). And now all medical men agree, though 150 years ago they would have denied the statement or would have had no idea what it meant. The Scripture declares that the earth is hung out in space on nothing (Job 26:7), that it is round (Isaiah 40:22), and that it turns on its axis so that at the same instant, in varying parts of the earth, it is night, morning, midday (Luke 17:34-36).

The historical part of the Bible is fast proving itself true. Modernists and infidels delighted to say that in the days of Moses no

one could read and write. Since the discovery of the Tel El Amarna tablets, all historians know that the guessers were wrong and the Bible is right. Scoffers said that the nation of Hittites discussed in detail in the Bible never really existed. But now extended inscriptions on stone and tablets have been deciphered in the Holy Land and elsewhere proving that the Hittites were a mighty race of people and a great nation. Historical and geographical details mentioned by the Bible are proving true more and more as the facts are discovered from profane sources. There really were two cities, Sodom and Gomorrah, destroyed by fire from heaven. Their ruins are under the Dead Sea and grave-yards have been found near the Dead Sea with the marks of fire and brimstone on the rocks. Historically and scientifically the Bible has proved itself to any honest investigating mind.

The prophetic predictions of the Bible have proven it supernaturally inspired. Scores of prophecies about the Saviour were fulfilled to the letter. He was born of a virgin, of the tribe of Judah, born in Bethlehem, exactly as prophesied. He was born at the very time foretold by Daniel 9:25. In His life, in His triumphal entry, in His betrayal by a friend, in His crucifixion, in His words on the cross, in His death on the very day foretold by fifteen hundred years of Passover lambs dying. He fulfilled the Scriptures. Sensible people cannot believe that all that was an accident. The second chapter of Daniel gives an outline of world history with the four great world empires, Babylon, Media-Persia, Greece, and Rome, and indicates the ten nations that would emerge from the broken Roman Empire. Any thoughtful man, familiar with the prophecies and with their fulfillment, is bound to believe the Bible.

I say that the fact that the Bible repeatedly states that Jesus rose from the dead and that this is one of the central tenets of Christianity, of Bible religion, predisposes honest and openhearted people to believe in the resurrection, as they must believe other things taught in the Word of God, so long proven as credible.

The Overwhelming Evidence of Christ's Resurrection Convinced All New Testament Christians

The apostles were very practical men, not easy to deceive. Although Jesus told them again and again that He would rise from the dead, they did not understand or they simply could not believe the truth. There is no evidence that a single one of the New Testament Christians had much faith that Christ would rise from the dead. They were so set in their conviction that Christ was dead, permanently dead, that even when they saw Him many did not recognize Him at first. Mary thought He was the gardener. The two disciples on the road to Emmaus in Luke 24 did not recognize Him. The apostles did not first believe when the women told them that He was risen from the dead. Doubting Thomas did not believe the others of the eleven when they told him plainly that they had seen and talked with the risen Saviour. Mark 16:9-13 discusses this unbelief of the disciples. "Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils. And she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept. And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not. After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country. And they went and told it unto the residue; neither believed they them."

The disciples did not believe Mary Magdalene. They did not believe those two who walked on the road to Emmaus and talked to Jesus. When Jesus sat with them He "upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen."

Even when the rest of the disciples were convinced that Jesus had really risen from the dead,

because they had seen Him and talked with Him, Thomas did not believe. John 20:24-29 tells of Christ's return visit a week later when the doubter was convinced. "But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them; then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." Thomas was finally convinced. But he was first as stubborn an unbeliever as any honest man could well be.

Do not say that the disciples were gullible, that they were easily deceived. That is not true. Such a statement is foolish. All the evidence that an honest man could require, they did require. They would not believe that Jesus had risen from the dead until it was proven beyond the shadow of a doubt.

The evidence presented to the New Testament Christians was overwhelming. The worst doubter among them had to give up his doubts and accept it as a proven fact that Christ was risen from the dead.

There were some three thousand new converts added to the number of believers in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost. Every one of them was convinced of the literal resurrection of Christ from the dead. That was the major theme of Peter's sermon to them. And thenceforth the New Testament preachers followed a regular pattern when they proclaimed that Jesus was risen from the dead. The apostles insisted that they themselves had seen Him alive, that they had put their hands upon Him, had seen Him eat and drink. When they worked miracles they declared it was by the power of the resurrected Christ. (For example, Acts 4:10.) If they were filled with the Holy Ghost and mighty power, they explained it as a gift from the risen Saviour (Acts 2:32,33). Saul of Tarsus was convinced of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. So were all of the mighty Christians of his day. They declared that they knew personally the witnesses—above five hundred people had seen Him at one time after His resurrection, most of whom were still alive (I Cor. 15:6).

The fact that the proof was overwhelming to the honest hearts who faced the evidence immediately following Christ's resurrection is conclusive. If you, any honest reader, had lived at Jerusalem and wanted to know the truth, you would have been convinced that Jesus was risen from the dead, just as all the others who wanted to know the truth believed it then. The fact that all New Testament Christians became convinced of Christ's resurrection, and most of them against their will, proves that the evidence is beyond question and incontrovertible.

What Were the 'Infallible Proofs' Which Convinced Everybody Who Investigated That Jesus Was Literally Risen From the Dead?

The Scripture says in Acts 1:3 that Jesus showed Himself alive after His passion "by many infallible proofs." What were these proofs, so conclusive, so compelling that every New Testament Christian was convinced, and that the truth could not successfully be gainsaid in that whole generation?

First of all, Jesus actually appeared alive, to the sight of multitudes. They saw Him face to face! First Corinthians 15:4-8 gives a long list of those who saw

(Continued on page 9)

Quotes and Illustrations

(Continued from page 1)

my photograph. If you had been willing to wait a short season you could have had a better likeness, for I shall be like Him! I shall see Him as He is."

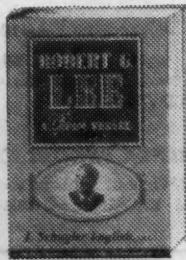
—Wonderful Word

LITTLE SELF-DENIALS, LITTLE HONESTIES, LITTLE PASSING WORDS OF SYMPATHY, LITTLE NAMELESS ACTS OF KINDNESS, LITTLE SILENT VICTORIES OVER FAVORITE TEMPTATIONS—THESE ARE THE SELECT THREADS OF GOLD WHICH, WHEN WOVEN TOGETHER, GLEAM OUT SO BRIGHTLY IN THE PATTERN THAT GOD APPROVES.

—CANNON FARRAR

(These illustrations are chosen from Dr. Mervin Rosell's new book, DRIFTWOOD—gathered for you who want to build a house of TRUTH—with clean seawashed boards of logic and illustrations. Price, paper binding, \$1.00. Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois.)

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WITH THE Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

By the Editor

Rev. Arthur N. Ramsey, pastor of the Cayucos (California) Community Church, reports a God-blessed revival which recently closed in his church with **EVANGELIST DEL FEHSENFELD**. "From the first night we could see that our brother was not a methodical evangelist, but was led of the Spirit of God, trusting in the Lord and depending upon Him for guidance. . . . Eternity alone will reveal the decisions which were made by the saints of God. . . . There were twenty-one folks who professed faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. Seven members were added to the church. . . . I recommend this man of God to any congregation, whatever the need may be, and I am sure that he is led of the Spirit of God in his ministry. The blessing he has been to this group of people and to this entire area cannot be measured. . . ."

A gracious revival of spiritual power among many of the believers resulted from eleven nights of evangelistic meetings conducted by **EVANGELIST ELMER PIPER** of Greenville, South Carolina, in the Bible Church, Maroa, Illinois, February 12-22. There were at least 75 rededications with several notable victories in the lives of Christians. Eight precious souls came to Christ. It was also the

privilege of the evangelist to be on The Blessed Hope Bible Broadcast sponsored by the church and conducted by the pastor daily over WHOW, Clinton, at 10:00 A. M. Friends of the Sword in this section might listen to this program over this station—1520 on the dial. On March 29, Evangelist Piper will open a two-week campaign in the First Baptist Church, Panama, New York. On April 19, he will begin in the First Baptist Church, Momence, Illinois.

EVANGELIST HYMAN APPELMAN sends a fine report about his six-week campaign in Mexico. In the cities of Monterrey, Torreon, Chihuahua, Puebla, and Mexico City, crowds filled the church auditoriums during the first four weeks. There has been a goodly number in the inquiry rooms after each service in these cities. In each city there has been a group of trained personal workers to help in every problem.

Evangelist Dan Vestal writes a word of recommendation for **EVANGELIST FREDDIE GAGE**, Decatur, Texas, telling of Evangelist Gage's work during 1952. During the past year, the young evangelist conducted 26 revivals and preached in 13 youth rallies. In the meetings, 824 professed conversions were recorded, along

See Letter Month FREE OFFER on this page!

with 1766 decisions by Christians. Evangelist Vestal says: ". . . I have known Freddie since he was converted in my revival meeting in Houston, Texas. . . . In all my ministry, I have never seen such a change in any one person as in Freddie Gage. . . ."

REV. PAUL HAYS, P. O. Box 388, Walhalla, South Carolina, has left the work of a pastor to become a full-time evangelist. Rev. B. C. Morgan, pastor of the Fairview Baptist Church, Number 2, Spartanburg, South Carolina, tells of a gracious revival Brother Hays recently conducted in his church, with fine results.

EVANGELIST W. J. MORRIS of 1415 W. 16th Avenue, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, held meetings last year in Arkansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. Rev. Ed Cox, First Baptist Church, Cheyenne, Oklahoma, commends Brother Morris, whom he had with him in revival services, and so does Dr. B. H. Duncan editor of *The Arkansas Baptist*. Those interested may write Brother Morris.

EVANGELIST RALPH DAVIDSON, Post Office Box No. 77, Coffeyville, Kansas, writes that he has just closed a soul-winning conference at Crane, Missouri, interdenominational, with many blessings and several people saved. In these conferences he stresses personal soul winning, as well as in his revival campaigns.

He's Got It

by Evangelist Bill Rice, Director Sword Staff of Evangelists

I am referring to Dr. J. Oscar Wells and what he's got is what it takes to lead a church in a successful soul-winning campaign. His is honestly one of the most unique ministries of any evangelist I know.

For one thing, his background is one of varied experiences and adventure. Consider this: He is still only thirty-six years old. And yet:—

After high school he went to John Tarleton, then Baylor University and finally to Texas Tech where he received his sheepskin. He did post-graduate work at Southwestern Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas, and high-tailed it off to China as a missionary almost before he was old enough to use Burma Shave!

In China he worked part of the time as a hospital evangelist under a famous doctor, married the boss' daughter, became a personal friend of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek and began teaching Chinese Christians to go from house to house doing personal work. The work was going strong when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, and Dr. Wells and his loved ones found themselves in a Japanese concentration camp. Here his father-in-law starved to death and the Wells' suffered many hardships before being liberated.

After the war, Dr. Wells could not immediately return to China because of the severe illness of his little daughter and, later, China's doors were closed.

Win Them Here!

He had been an evangelist in China and he is an evangelist. . . . period. If he could not return to China to win souls, he would win souls here. There is a fire in his bones! *He must preach!* While in Japan, following his liberation he preached. And in the Philippines, on his way home he preached. And his preaching gets results. He is a strong pulpit preacher and souls are saved in the public services. But the thing that is so different, so unique, in his campaigns is the fact that he gets others to work.

House-to-House

He does something most of us do not seem to be able to do—he gets laymen to really working. He announces that he wants to meet with would-be soul winners early in the mornings. If I made an announcement like that, just the pastor and me and an old man on crutches would show up! But Wells can get them out—they come! He has large numbers at the morning services. There he gives instruction on soul winning and sends them out two-by-two to win souls. And it works!

I KNOW

I know Wells gets results because I worked with him in one large union revival campaign. I remember two things. First, one morning when the seven of us (members of the revival party) were having devotions, he wept as he prayed for God to break our hearts and give us tears. And he spread concern and fire to those who came for the morning meetings. Second, he and a group of preachers and laymen personally visited hundreds of homes and won scores to Christ.

Others Tell Me



And I know he wins souls in his revival campaigns because pastors write to tell me. Pastors say, "The greatest revival in the history of the church. . . . Our people learned to work during this revival as they have never done before. Several of our members left their own work and gave their whole time to the revival." He goes on to tell of the conversions. Another writes, "The secret of the meeting was. . . the large amount of personal visitation. . . over 1,500 miles were taken up in driving

from door to door visiting the lost!"

Evangelist Leaves, Revival Stays

Naturally this kind of evangelism has lasting qualities. When Wells leaves, the revival stays. I wish I had space to quote from pastors as to the lasting effect of this kind of a campaign. This is the Bible way, ". . . publicly and from house to house" (Acts 20: 20).

Dr. Wells has some union meetings lined up for this year, but he will gladly serve in your church—whether large or small—as the Lord clearly leads. He sets no price on his services but will come on the simple expense and love-offering basis. I hope you will have this evangelist, who has preached in China, Japan, Singapore, the Philippines, East Africa, East India, Rio De Janeiro, Old Mexico and so many other places, in your church. For any further information or dates write directly to Dr. J. Oscar Wells, Box 417, Bethany, Oklahoma or to me, Evangelist Bill Rice, 214 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, Illinois.

If Dr. Wells is unable to come to you at the time you want, perhaps one of our other strong evangelists will be able to help.

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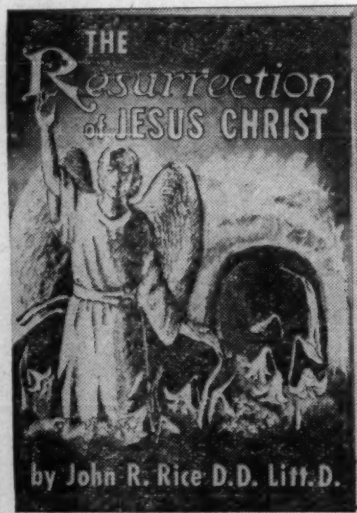
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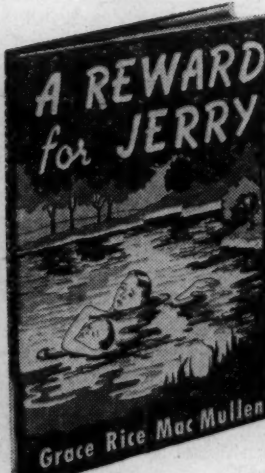
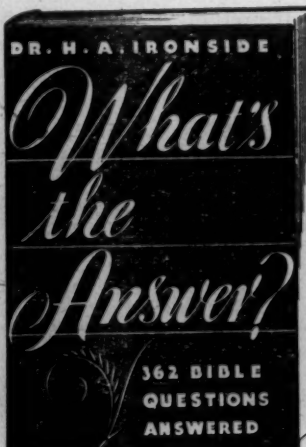
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By Craig Massey

Chapter 8

THE STORY UP TO DATE: Jeff recovers consciousness after a harrowing chase and attack by Mohawk Indians, in a "hospital" bed at Killypox stockade. He is injured painfully but not seriously. It is western New York State in revolutionary time. A searching party is sent out to look for his friends, the Watsons (a missionary family) and Carl Ives, a scout. They return alone. Jeff prays for the safety of his friends, and also that he may find his father, missing for a year now. He remembers his mother and sister in Albany, too. Suddenly Carl and the Watsons appear, safe and sound. At the table that night in the stockade, Jeff tells his name, and his father's name. Captain Snow, in charge of the stockade, tells Jeff in disgust, "Your father went over to the enemy!" Is his father a traitor like Benedict Arnold?

"Any Fish?"

Like cracking, jagged lightening zipping over the Mohawk Valley during a thunder storm, the words, "Your father is a traitor!" echoed through Jeff's unbelieving mind.

Dumbly, he stared at Captain Snow. The man's face showed only scorn. Lumberkin smirked as though he were pleased with Jeff's discomfort. Carl Ives looked helplessly on as he said, "Jeff, I'm sorry. I had heard about your father."

"But, Carl, why didn't you tell me? Why didn't you tell me?"

"I didn't say anything because I wasn't sure, Jeff. I'm still not sure for that matter."

Jeff felt a glimmer of hope emerging from his despair, but Lumberkin sounded a quick end to that ray of encouragement.

"You may not be dead certain about Lockwood's desertion, Ives, but I am. That man drifted in here last year and I knew him from the first; tall, dark-haired fellow like his son. He worked with us to build this fort and went out lots of times on forays. He always kept askin' about the loyalty of the settlers in this section. Well, there was one feller, Dunkin Knore by name, we always figured was for the English, secret like. We told Lockwood, and before long he was livin' at that Tory's house."

"Then one day we had a terrible raid. We blasted the cannon to call everyone to the fort for safety, but Lockwood and Knore didn't come. As soon as things quieted down I took off to Knore's place and seen right away where they'd cleared out. Well, curious to see what happened to Lockwood, I trailed the raiders. Sure enough, I came upon them at Canada Creek, and who was among them, but Lockwood, just as free and easy being with the enemy as you like. I drew a bead on that traitor's head and almost pulled the trigger, but knew right well I'd be a goner if I was to do it, so I held fire, figuring my life was worth more than that skunk's."

When Lumberkin concluded his story Captain Snow nodded in agreement. "He's speakin' the truth. That man was good fer nuthin'."

"I'm still not sure," Carl insisted.

"Nor am I," Mr. Watson broke in, "I'm not at all sure. True, it was an odd succession of events, but to condemn a man before he can speak for himself is unfair."

"Even if Samuel Lockwood is guilty of treason, I'll string along with Jeff," Carl spoke up. "He

brought in that wagon and risked his skin in doing it. Besides, this same boy was hoodwinked by a man named Kittle awhile back. In fact, he was taken prisoner by Kittle and Haynes and finally escaped. Now I ask you, would a young fellow be likely to be taken prisoner by the enemy if he were their friends? Not likely, I'd say."

Lumberkin wheezed, "Ives, you're wrong. I always say, like father, like son; and I tell ya now, I don't trust this boy fer a musket ball."

Captain Snow bellowed as he always did, his voice carrying to where the other prisoners were eating, "Jefferson Lockwood, my advice to you is to plan on leavin' Killypox just as soon as you can. You're not welcome here. These people have suffered enough without the son of a traitor dwellin' with them. Innocent or guilty, whatever you may be, your hide will be safer far way."

"Aren't you being unfair, Captain Snow?" Mr. Watson asked quietly. "You can't judge a boy without the slightest evidence!"

"I have these people to consider," Captain Snow waved toward the settlers who were showing their displeasure of what they had heard. "Men, women and children have been killed, and until Samuel Lockwood has been proven innocent we want none of his son!" Jeff saw many of the people nod in agreement.

He rose to his feet and walked out into the morning sun. Carl and Mr. Watson followed. Turning to face his friends, he said, "I'll leave this morning! I'll go into the English lines. I'll hunt every inch of the country until I prove my father innocent of these false charges!"

"Wait, Jeff," Carl pleaded. "Wait! You'd never find your father that way. The woods are filled with prowlers and they'd have your scalp in no time."

"Look, Jeff," Mr. Watson said, laying a restraining hand on the boy's jacket sleeve. "My cabin is ten miles north of here. There's heaps of work to be done and I need help. Come with me. I'm leaving this morning. Come and help me plant the crops."

"Do it, Jeff. Mr. Watson's right. I'm to leave tomorrow to scout the English. I'll keep my eyes peeled for your Dad. But don't rush off and ruin everything," Carl pleaded.

The men were right; Jeff knew it, and finally answered reluctantly, "All right, I'll go with you, Mr. Watson, but at the first op-

portunity I'm leaving to get this mess straightened out. I couldn't stand it if I didn't. I know my father is as loyal as George Washington. And when we find the answer Captain Snow will be the first to hear of it. I'll tell him myself."

"Let's pack up immediately and head for my place," Mr. Watson suggested.

Mrs. Watson and Maud prepared enough foodstuffs for two weeks while the men rolled blankets, axes, shovels, hoes, shot and ammunition for hunting. Within an hour they were ready.

Into the woods they went; the forest, damp from the recent rains, blazed with wild flowers. Violets, buttercups and spring beauties scented the air. "I thought to bring the oxen but Carl said it was too big a risk. That means we'll have to do the planting by hand," Mr. Watson said.

"I'm glad there's work to be done. It'll keep my mind from fretting," Jeff told the missionary.

At noon they rested beside a moss-banked spring and ate in silence. When the last scrap was cleaned up Mr. Watson leaned back against a sycamore tree, "Jeff, that was a hard blow you had this morning."

"It's all of that. Why it's got me so down-hearted I could almost burst."

"I guess I'd feel about the same way," Mr. Watson agreed. "Yet there's something to remember. Did you ever see those eagle wings Carl Ives has burned on his moccasins?"

"Yes. I noticed them."

"Well, there's a reason for that. Carl told me about it. He said that often he got so discouraged that he just stared at the ground. Then one day he was reading his Bible and came across a verse in Isaiah that meant a great deal to him. Perhaps you've read it yourself. It goes, 'They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.'"

"So Carl decided to burn those eagle wings in his moccasins as a constant reminder. When discouragement tugged and got him looking down he would see the wings and recall the verse. That's not a bad idea, Jeff."

"What does it mean to wait upon the Lord, Mr. Watson?"

"Jeff, first of all it means prayer; then after that it means the patience to wait until the Lord answers that prayer."

"Pray and wait," Jeff, in his desperation, clung to these words. Even years later, when he recalled the trying times of bygone wilderness days, those same words still echoed. No, more than echoed; they became the pattern and guide for his entire life.

"Well, Jeff, we'd best move on," Mr. Watson said a half hour later, rising to his feet and leading the way. "I still have doubts of finding the cabin intact."

"But Lumberkin said he saw it not long ago."

"I know, but there have been several raids since then."

They trudged on through the forest until Mr. Watson stopped atop a rise. "Well, now, I was wrong. Look there!"

The forest broke into a level bottom land clearing, fringed on the south side by a deep, fast moving stream. To the west a wooded mountain formed a natural barrier. Facing the stream, but several hundred yards from it, Jeff saw the cabin, small and still yellowish, for the logs had not yet taken on the weather-beaten brown color of older cabins.

The cleared land was black in the afternoon sun, promising rich crops for the family. Mr. Watson nodded toward the fields, "Years ago that used to be under water. There was an old beaver pond here then, and the soil is about as good as you could find. Only a few small trees had taken root, so I had an easy time clearing it off."

They hurried down into the vale. Jeff supposed he had never seen a likelier spot for a home. Behind the cabin, rising but a few feet away, was a massive shale cliff at least fifty feet high. Scrub pine and heavy vines clung to the almost perpendicular slope.

"I built the cabin there so the

mist hanging over the stream would be as distant as possible. Besides the bluff in back will keep the north wind from swishing through the cracks when winter comes."

"Are there any fish down there?" Jeff pointed to a deep hole.

"Come on. We need some fresh meat for supper. Let's see what we can catch," Mr. Watson suggested.

Jeff cut two long slender hickory poles, while Mr. Watson found worms under the stones along the bank. Within ten minutes they were easing up to a deep pool. Jeff cast near a tremendous boulder in midstream. Almost at once the line shot away. A brook trout scurried wildly to free the hook, but Jeff worked the fish into shore and then flipped him on the grassy bank.

"I guess that proves we can have a fresh fish dinner when we want it," Mr. Watson laughed. A moment later the missionary's rod bent waterward as a lunger of a fish took the worm. With a dash the trout frisked under an overhanging tree. The line tangled and the trout went free. "We'll have to get him some day. He was a whopper!" Mr. Watson groaned, tying on a new hook.

Before a half hour passed they had four fish, each about ten inches long, and just right for

the frying pan. Before they ate Mr. Watson and Jeff knelt in front of the cabin in thanksgiving.

Jeff's everlasting burden seemed lighter when the man finished. The folks at the stockade were remembered, as were Jeff's folks back home, but the most comforting part about the prayer was Mr.



Jeff saw the cabin small and yellowish, and behind it was a massive shale cliff.

Watson's asking the Lord to watch over Jeff's father. The certainty of the answer to the request flooded him. Somehow, someday, somewhere, the missing man would be discovered.

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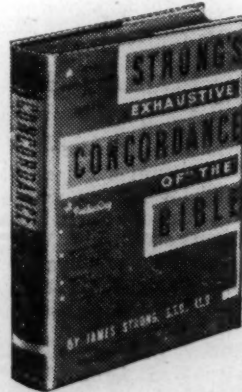
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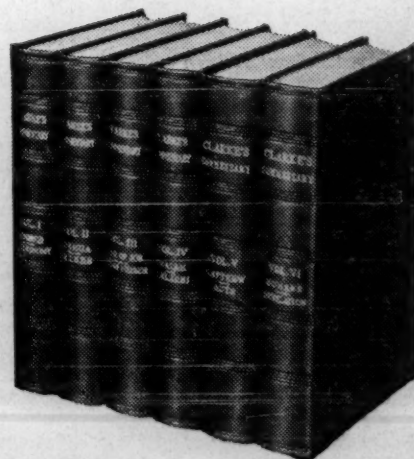
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Preaching, Power and Promotion

(Continued from page 2)

running off the bridge into the river.

2. Some of them passed by one who would have helped them.

3. When a man decided to give himself in sacrifice if necessary, he stopped the next cars—and all others were stopped.

4. A young woman gave her coat in protecting from the weather the man who had "saved" them.

Application: (1) As Christians we should give ourselves in giving out God's message to the world. (2) We should "go all out" for Christ who has done so much for us.

Exodus 32:26. Deuteronomy 30:11-20. Joshua 24:14-17. I Kings 18:21. Isaiah 55:6, 7. Ezekiel 33:1-11. John 19:1-42.

IV

Some People Mixed Up

1. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

Some people are all mixed up in some of the fundamentals of life. They imagine "getting" is the thing. Jesus says "giving" is the thing. Is He right? Does he know? "Give me! Give me!" is their motto in a staccato—it is really in a falsetto. Their prayers are mainly "Give me! Give me!" Their philosophy of life is "Give me! Give me!"

2. Jesus said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again" (Luke 6:38). Here Jesus said we really choose our own measure for receiving, "For with the same measure ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." I know it is true—first, because Jesus said it. That settles it forever. Second, from personal experience I know it is true. I started tithing my junior year in University. I made \$100 that year preaching. I tithed it. I have been bringing tithes and offerings for His work ever since. I have honestly tried to put God first. We did not stop with tithes and offerings as ordinarily understood. We had young men, students in our home. Oh, we liked the privacy of home the same as others like it. But, we loved to "give" too. Today some of these are pastors. One is an assistant to the pastor. One is secretary to a Baptist Convention. One is on the foreign mission field. While mission secretary, I refused over \$12,000, every penny of which we might have kept as honorariums. The audited books show that! Today every penny of profit from our new book, *The Language of Heaven*, we give to the work of Christ through the Sword of the Lord.

The Word of Jesus is true—in turn He has provided; friends offered to help get us through the Seminary; a brother and others helped us through University; Christian stalwarts have given us mission trips, 4 automobiles, an airplane, and many other things we have used as we served Him and for His glory!

Brothers and sisters are Christian! Our son is a minister. Our parents are in glory. He fills our hands with fruits for Him! Doxology!

It embarrasses me a bit to tell you all this—yet that is what Jesus said.

Why don't you take God at His Word! Step out on the promises of Jesus! Get under the load of His work. Live right! Work right! Worship right! Give right! Jump in with us and help Him: build, send the Sword, hold revival conferences, distribute His literature, pay debts on His work—and, He will bless you in kind—He says so! Doxology!

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Front-Line Soldiers!

(Continued from page 1)

the battlefield, if need be, is unappreciated.

Thousands of men from the armed services wrote to me during World War II and thousands more letters came as the boys returned home. More than once some shocking condition which seemed to show neglect or ingratitude on the part of those at home made soldier boys ask, "I wonder if it was worth it? I give up everything to defend my country and risk my life. It does not seem to be appreciated." One husband wrote me one of the saddest letters I have ever received. He came home to find that his wife had taken a job in a defense plant, had fallen in love with another man, had gone into outrageous sin with him, and now wanted a divorce to marry the other man. Another man tried so hard to stay clean and good because he was passionately in love with a beautiful girl who was waiting for him. But it turned out that she had not waited. When he was wounded in action and spent a long time in a hospital, she broke the engagement and married another man. He felt crushed in heart that the man his sweetheart married had stayed at home, made a good deal of money during the war, was promoted by his company, and now got his (the wounded soldier's) girl.

A number of men were deeply concerned to come home and find that it was very difficult for them to fit in to a job where they had worked before, and they felt there was little patience and little help in that, not only by employers but by fellow-workers. I think in general employers tried to re-employ soldiers when they could, and our government insisted upon that; still thousands of men felt that their sacrifice of years out of their lives and the harassing of mind and the upset of their whole lives was not appreciated by those of us who stayed at home and who were protected by their great sacrifice, whether they lived and returned, or whether they died.

I believe that as a nation we have made generous provision for our soldiers in pay, insurance, support for dependents, college tuition and other training, hospitalization and medical care. I believe that often we have been victimized by individual servicemen. But at the same time, all the money provided by the government cannot take the place of sincere love and prayer and gratitude which our boys in far-off Korea need and ought to have from their loved ones. O America, do not forget those young heroes who offer their lives for their country and for my protection and yours!

In a Way, We are in Front-Line Trenches, Too

We feel that we here at THE SWORD OF THE LORD are in Christ's front-line trenches. We are in the forefront of the battle against sin, the battle to keep souls out of Hell, the battle to "purify the churches, to clean up the lives of Christians, to stop modernism and infidelity, especially among the people of God. Don't we deserve your love, your letters, your support?"

Modernists hate the idea of the Christian ministry being a war. Modernists know no personal Devil. They do not believe that human nature is depraved and tainted with sin. They do not believe our civilization is doomed. They do not even believe that an individual must be born again to see God in peace. Modernists hate the idea of Christian service as a warfare. They are not angry at the Devil, not angry at sin. They have no fear that sinners will wake, unrepentant, in the fires of Hell. They do not wrestle against the powers of darkness.

But Bible Christians know that we have a war on our hands against sin and Satan and the rulers of darkness in high places. Paul said, by divine inspiration, "The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds" (II Cor. 10:4).

Paul wrote to Timothy, "Fight the good fight of faith..." (I Tim. 6:12).

The Ephesian Christians were commanded to "put on the whole

armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand" (Eph. 6:11-13). The Christian was commanded to have the girdle of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shoes of the Gospel, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the blessed sword of the Spirit, the Word of God.

And when Paul neared death he wrote saying, "I have fought a good fight..." (II Tim. 4:7).

The Christian life is a warfare. There are dangers, persecutions, pains, and enemies. Satan, demons, spiritual wickedness in high places, and evil men all fight Bible Christianity when it is pressed by Spirit-filled people trying to obey the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

Down through the ages some Christians have been in the front-lines in the battle against Satan, the battle for Christ, the battle to wrest souls out of the hands of the wicked one, as David took the lamb from the mouth of the lion! The Apostle Paul was an example. So were all the apostles and martyrs. Some gave up home, loved ones, comfort, and friends to go to far-off fields of service, to be missionaries, to be lonely, poor, abused, strangers, hated for Christ's sake, and to win souls. Others endured cruel mockings and scourgings. The Catholic church in the days of the Spanish Inquisition murdered multiplied thousands, even as they have murdered Protestants and Protestant missionaries in recent months in Mexico, in Colombia, and in Spain. Communists have murdered their millions of Christians in recent years.

Others on the front-line trenches have been the great soul winners who have taken all manner of criticism and slander, have risked all to keep people out of Hell. They have smitten every heresy, founded most of our good Christian schools, have defended the faith. Bob Jones University has stood in the front-line of the battle in turning out soul winners, in daring to break with traditional ways of building a school, of meeting the educational standards of worldlings and infidels, in standing for the "old-time religion." Dr. Lee Roberson has been on the front-line in working independent of denominational bosses and programs to win thousands and train soul winners. Dr. Carl McIntire and many others have stood in the front lines of the fight against modernism that would deny the deity of Jesus Christ, would deny the authority of the Bible, that would insult the efficacy of the blood of our Saviour. God bless every man who sticks his neck out and is willing to suffer and be slandered, to oppose modernism and to defend the faith! I do not say that all the evangelists, all those who fight to defend the faith, are blameless. I do say that we are in the front-line trenches in the battle for Jesus Christ.

Missionaries, thousands of them around the world, are in the front-line trenches in the war against heathen darkness, against demons, against Satan himself, against evil religions. Of course some on the foreign field, just like many at home, are interested in and busy about secondary details of the Christian war, and are not in the front-line trenches. But many missionaries are in the front-line trenches. They suffer. They weep. They pray. They are slandered, abused, persecuted. They are in hand-to-hand conflict with Satan over lost souls.

We here at the Sword of the Lord office feel that we are in the very van of the attack, are in the front-line fight for soul winning, the fight against sin, against heresy, against modernism, against formalism, against worldliness. We strain every nerve and throw in every resource we have to try to carry out the commis-

sion of Jesus Christ, to get the Gospel to every creature. We labor, and weep, and pray, and toil, and sacrifice, to stir revival fires, to defend evangelism and practice it and preach it. This editor has been defamed, slandered, accused, hated, and feared by worldly Christians, by modernistic preachers, by compromising denominationalists who put the denominational program ahead of Jesus Christ and the Bible.

The other day a Catholic priest wrote me, making every vile charge against me. Today an officer of the Committee of Publication for the Christian Science cult called me long distance from Chicago to protest against the teaching in THE SWORD OF THE LORD and the exposure which we published (by the late Dr. R. A. Torrey) of Christian Science heresy. A few days ago a reader of THE SWORD OF THE LORD sent me a letter which he had received from a denominational editor of one of the extreme holiness denominations, accusing me of teaching that some people are foreordained to be damned and cannot be saved. Because I teach that when one comes to Jesus and trusts in him, he has everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation, but is kept by the power of God, this Arminian brother misrepresented me. Thousands of other good people believe in the security of a believer, but do not publish pamphlets on the question as I do, or preach to settle people continually on salvation by grace without works. So we who do take the public stand for eternal salvation by grace and against modernism, against heresy, against worldliness and sin, get the abuse others do not get.

Do not misunderstand me; I thank God that He has called me to be an evangelist. I thank God that He has called me to take a firm stand against sin, against modernism, against false cults. I thank God that He has given me a burden of soul for the churches, to help bring about revival, to call out young men upon whom He has laid His hand, to lead in soul winning. He has called me to press upon Christians the need for holy living, the need to be filled with the Spirit, the bounden duty of soul winning for every Christian. I have no complaint but rather a sincere delight in the high calling God has given me and in the privilege of suffering and denying self and giving time, money, labor, tears, to win souls and work in front-line trenches.

But doesn't God want all real Christians to remember us who are in the front-line trenches? The boys in Korea do not complain; neither do we. But home folk ought to write those in Korea, and readers of THE SWORD OF THE LORD ought to write us this Letter-Month, up until April 10. I believe that it would be a sin for Christians who believe the Bible, for Christians who read THE SWORD OF THE LORD, for Christians who want to win souls, not to give us the encouragement of your letters, the encouragement of your support. Those in front-line trenches deserve the support of those for whom they labor and sacrifice.

Certainly Christians Ought to Help Others, But They Ought to Stand By THE SWORD OF THE LORD too!

If you have a soldier in Korea, I realize that you have some other things to think about. Teachers must teach school, farmers must milk their cows, preachers must preach, students must study and play, mechanics must go to their work; but does this excuse them if they neglect those who suffer and are wounded, are lonely and may die for country and home, in far-off Korea?

We do not say that you ought not to support other work of the Lord. Christians who belong to Bible-believing, soul-winning churches should support them (Christians should never support modernism in any form in the world). There are other sound Christian institutions — schools, radio programs, missionary programs — which many Christians ought to support. But we who are right out in the front-line trenches, used of God to stir revival fires, to stir up Christians, to de-

fend sound doctrine, to inspire preachers and actually winning souls, — should not we too have your help, your prayers, your gifts, your cooperation, your letters? WRITE US A LETTER DURING LETTER-MONTH!

One great Christian school counts itself "a training camp, not a battlefield"; so it does not want controversy. That is a great Christian school, but somebody must carry on the battle. Support that school, but don't forget us. We need your love, your prayers, your letters, and your help, too.

A Christian publisher publishes lots of good books. He publishes books by and about Evangelist Billy Graham, and makes money out of them. He also publishes a book by the late Lewis Sperry Chafer slandering evangelists and fighting mass evangelism, opposing the public invitation; he makes money out of that too. It is a private enterprise. I hope you will buy his good books. Thank God for every Christian publishing house where they believe the Bible and publish some good books. But don't you think you ought to back up Sword of the Lord Publishers which takes a clear-cut stand, which is a non-profit corporation, and turns down thousands of dollars each year that we could make if we would trim our sails just a little, would compromise on some book

not quite true to the Bible, or if we would accept ads which do not quite meet our strictest standards? Don't you think Christians should write to us during Letter-Month?

God bless our noble pastors. Those who labor fervently in the Word, teaching and preaching the Bible, winning souls, building up the saints, shepherding God's flock, ought to be supported. The labourer is worthy of his hire. But pastors are on our hearts too. We pray for them, we labor continually to inspire them, teach them, protect them, and help them. We provide them with material and inspiration for preaching. They thank us — literally thousands of pastors — in earnest letters. Don't you think we ought to have your attention, your letters, your prayers, your confidence and support also?

If your subscription needs to be renewed, renew it now! If there are books and pamphlets which you can use in serving the Lord, or in helping others, or in winning souls, order them now. Some should write and join the Sword Book Club. Others should send an offering to the Sword Building Fund, or Free Literature Fund. Others should write suggestions or criticisms. But thousands of you ought simply to write and say, "God bless you! We here at

(Continued on page 8)

Dr. Bob Jones Says:

The Lord willing, when you read this statement, I will be conducting evangelistic meetings in Australia and New Zealand. I am booked for one-week meetings in six different cities. Now, I want to ask four things of our friends:

1. While I am gone, please pray earnestly that God will bless my ministry and give me strength.
2. As soon as I return, which will be about March 17, Bob, Jr., leaves for evangelistic meetings in Europe. He will be gone about seven weeks. Pray earnestly for Bob that God may use him in winning many people to the Lord.
3. Pray more earnestly than you have ever prayed for Bob

Jones University that it may be true to its trust and faithful to its testimony.

4. Please keep the contributions coming in for the Student Loan Endowment and missionary funds while I am gone. We are counting on you.

I will not write every week, but I am asking my good friend and brother, Dr. Rice, the editor of THE SWORD OF THE LORD, to carry this article every week until I get back home. We are counting on you, and I am sure you will not let us down. Thank you, every one, and God bless you.

BOB JONES, Founder
Bob Jones University
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How the book, "The Power of Pentecost" can help you.

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That's what you really want to know about a book, isn't it? Not how many pages, not how lovely a binding, but WILL IT REALLY WORK IN MY LIFE?

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Surely it is worth \$3.00 to learn how to have the power of God in your life! Why not order a copy today, and find out for yourself what the fullness of the Holy Spirit in your life can mean.

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7. The Fullness of the Holy Spirit and the Ministry Gifts in O. T. and New
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Front-Line Soldiers!

(Continued from page 7)

home have not forgotten you in the front-line trenches. Keep pressing the battle!" Many should write and say, "Thank you for the labor and tears and burden, and for your faithfulness in preaching the Gospel, in stirring revival fires, in helping all of us to win souls."

Now whatever you have to say, you can help us by your letters. Will you write today to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Wheaton, Illinois, and send your encouragement, or your order, or gift, or your thanks, or assurance of your prayers, or your suggestion as to how we can do better work for you and all of God's people?

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SECOND GIFT: 60-page beautiful, Easter two-colored cover, entitled, *The Resurrection of Jesus Christ* for every cash gift to the Sword Building Fund of \$2 or more. This gift will not be sent free unless you enclose a gift of \$2 or more for the Sword Building Fund. This special Easter book by Evangelist John R. Rice has the following Bible material that will stir your heart, will show how important is the resurrection of Christ, and how infallibly it is proved for every honest heart.

First, the author shows the importance of Christ's resurrection to the Christian faith. He shows that: 1. The resurrection of Christ is part of the saving Gospel. 2. The resurrection of Christ was a single sign of His deity. 3. The Old Testament Scriptures plainly foretold that Christ should rise from the dead. 4. Jesus Himself often

foretold His coming death on the cross and His resurrection. 5. Bible preachers continually proclaimed the resurrection of Christ. 6. The resurrection of Christ is the essential basis of other great Bible doctrines. 7. Baptism was given as a perpetual reminder that Christ was raised from the dead.

Second, we give "many infallible proofs" of Christ's resurrection. They are: 1. The character and person of Christ make it easy to believe in His resurrection. 2. The Bible has proven itself credible, so its account of the resurrection can be believed. 3. The overwhelming evidence of Christ's resurrection convinced all New Testament Christians. 4. Naming the 'Infallible proofs' which convinced everybody who investigated that Jesus was literally risen from the dead. 5. The arguments against the resurrection of Christ are unbelievable and silly and obviously biased. 6. The one best way to know that Jesus is alive today is to try Him as Saviour!

Remember that this beautiful book has been especially prepared for Easter time. It will make an ideal gift. Extra copies may be had for 50c per copy. But we have a copy waiting for you and sent absolutely free when you send your gift to the Sword Building Fund of \$2 or more during Letter-Month. Get your Easter gift now by sending a gift of \$2 or more to the Sword Building Fund. Address The Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois.

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Note other bargains offered during Letter-Month. Save money, get fine Christian books at reduced prices while you can!

We are looking for your letter. Don't disappoint us. We are in the front-line trenches. We want to know that you care, that you pray, that you are backing us up.

Address your letters to The Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois.

The Lost Axe-Head

(Continued from page 1)

head slipped away from the handle, bounded into the water and sank out of sight. And the man, in great embarrassment, turned to the man of God, who said: "Where fell it? And he showed him the place. And he cut down a stick, and cast it in thither; and the iron did swim."

The Miracles of Elisha

This illustration is one of the miracles of Elisha. There is a very sharp contrast between the miracles of Elisha and those of Elijah. Elijah seemed always to do great things, Elisha the commonplace, every-day things. Elisha and Elijah walk along together. They come to Bethel, to Gilgal, to the fords of Jordan, and Elijah turns to Elisha, saying, "Better tarry here, for the Lord will take me away from you," and he would not. And the sons of prophets came out and said, "Elisha, better tarry here, for the Lord will take away your master." And he said, "As the Lord liveth and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee."

And Elijah, looking upon him, said, "Elisha, what will you have me give unto thee?" And he said, "O master, a double portion of thy spirit." And Elijah said, "You have asked a hard thing, but if you keep your eyes fixed upon me you shall have it." They came to the Jordan, and Elijah took off his old mantle and smote the waters, and, dry-shod, they went over on to the other side. Suddenly the skies brightened and a chariot of fire and steeds of fire appeared. Then the whirlwind was on and Elijah was caught up by the whirlwind and Elisha, overpowered for the moment, stood looking at him. Then, stretching forth his hands, I imagine I hear him shout, "My father, my father. The chariot of Israel and the horsemen thereof." And Elijah took his old mantle, leaned out from the whirlwind, held it for a second, and then dropped it. It came fluttering down through the air until it was upon the shoulders of Elisha. And he was ready. And note this, he did not take the master's mantle and wrap it around him and say, "Isn't this comfortable?"

Many a man has received the Holy Ghost for power and lost Him, because of this spirit. Elisha did not wrap his master's mantle around him and say, "I shall take this back and keep it as a matter of pride." Many a man has received a blessing and lost it for this very same reason. He used the master's mantle in the same way that Elijah had used it. He smote the waters, then came over unto the other shore. Now, from this time on his miracles are of the homely sort.

He hears of a certain place, where there is a bitter spring, and he sweetens the waters and makes the place more habitable and the land more fertile. He learns of a certain woman who is troubled because of debt, and he goes into her home and asks for her possessions. She has only a cruse of oil. He tells her to go through the village borrowing empty vessels. When she brings them, he tells her to secure a still greater number. When she brings them he tells her to pour out the oil into them. This she did until they were filled. Then she sold the oil and paid her debts and her home was filled with rejoicing.

He is told by the Shunamite woman that her boy is dead. He comes down from the mountain, makes his way across the plain, goes up into the prophet's chamber where the boy is lying, and prays, and the boy lives again. This is like Elisha. And so when the man finds only the axe-handle in his hand, and the axe-head gone, it is only natural for him to turn to this man of God and say, "Alas, Master, for it was borrowed." And for the man of God to say, "Where fell it? And he showed him the place. And he cut down a stick, and cast it in thither; and the iron did swim."

Jesus Is a Miracle Working Saviour

If this were the only instance of the kind in the Scriptures, I might question it, but the Bible

is full of stories like this. I turn to the New Testament and I find there the story of the woman who for eighteen years had been bowed with infirmity. She could in no wise lift herself up. She had spent all her living on physicians, and could be healed by none of them. She was a dwarf in stature. I have imagined her sometimes, when alone in her home, when no eye could look upon her, trying to straighten out her arm, and she could not. I have imagined her trying to lift up her poor body, and she could not. But one day Jesus sees her stooping over in her infirmity, and with all His divine power He speaks, saying, "Woman, thou art loosed," and she stood up. The iron did swim. He is always bringing these things to pass.

I see a woman taken in her sin. She is being hounded by men who are professing great virtue themselves. They are attempting to stone her with stones and she is running like a frightened deer. I imagine her stumbling and falling. I imagine a stone striking her. I see her rise from her fallen position, with the blood blinding her eyes. She is hastening on when, suddenly, she sees Jesus. I think I see her fall at His feet.

The law condemned her, the world stoned her; but Jesus forgave her. And when they came up to Him they found Him bending over and writing in the sand. They say that when the woman came to Him as an impure woman, He bowed His face because He was a pure man, and he wrote abstractly in the sand to hide his confusion. I do not believe it. I am sure it is not so.

There is an old legend which declares that when Jesus bent over to write, He was writing the name of a man who stood in the crowd, and as this man leaned forward, he read his own name. And the rest of the sentence was this: "So-and-So is himself an extortioner." And the man drops the stone in his hand and goes. Jesus writes another name. "So-and-So is himself an adulterer." And fifty

men drop the stones in their hands and flee away. He continues writing name after name, and man after man leaves, until at last, lifting up His eyes and seeing only the woman at His feet and the men all gone, He says, "Woman, where are thine accusers? Doth no man accuse thee?" And she said, "No man, Lord." And He said, "Neither do I condemn thee." And she stood up and was free. And the iron did swim.

Jesus Works Miracles Today too

But if any of you are saying to-day, "But that is in the Bible," then I will take an illustration out of modern time. At a meeting in a city in Canada there came into the audience a man blinded by drink, held captive by drugs for twenty-nine years. He had been a slave to opium and to cocaine and to morphine. One of our workers spoke to him. His heart was

(Continued on page 9)

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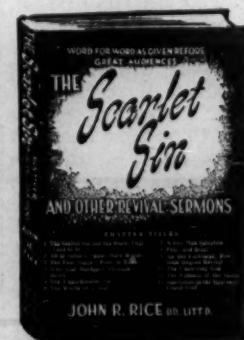
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The Lost Axe-Head

(Continued from page 8)

touched. And I saw that man walk down in the presence of four thousand people, climb up on to the high platform by my side, and say, "Friends, I am climbing up out of hell, and you must help me." And although he was clad in rags, there came up to him a beautifully-dressed woman, who said, "My husband will take you to our home this evening." The other day there came a letter to us from Canada, written by the Presbyterian minister, who said: "I wish you could see our man. His face is shining. I wish you could hear him speak. He is filled with the power of God. I wish you could have heard him lead our meeting last night. Scores of people were impressed and many of them converted." And the iron did swim.

"Ah, but that is Canada," you say. Then let me take you to another land. One of the first days that we were in Melbourne, Australia, I heard a rap at my door in the hotel. I said, "Come in," and a frightened face appeared for a moment at the door. I have never for a moment gotten that face out of my vision. A note was handed in, and I read, "Dear Sir: I have been a drunkard for four years. I have tried my best to overcome the awful disease and passion, but I cannot. Please pray for me." Then the person appeared at the door again for a moment, and she said: "I came just to see that you got it in your hand," and was gone. I have scarcely passed through a single night since, that I have not seen her face, sometimes with a look of stolid indifference on it, sometimes it seemed to me bathed in tears, and she almost on the point of decision. One night I saw her stand in one of the churches and, with trembling tones, say that through the day she had gotten the victory, that under the power of the singing she had seen Jesus, and with the memory of her sweet mother she had made one great effort by the help of God. She was in our meetings after that, clothed and in her right mind. All the look of womanhood back, all the power of virtue back, all the strength of Christian grace back. And the iron did swim.

Christians Who Have Lost the Power of God

But my message is also for the man and for the woman who is a member of the Church. There is many a man in the Church today, and many a woman, too, in the predicament of the man who lost the axe-head. The man with the axe-handle in his hand could have gone on, apparently chopping wood. He could have raised the axe-handle and brought it down, and the man fifty feet away would not have known that he was working without an axe-head. But I was raised in the country, and I know that it is a good deal more difficult to swing an axe-handle without a head, than to swing one with an axe-head. And it is a good deal more difficult to keep up the form of religion, than to live the real thing, and many of you are keeping up the form only. You are working without an axe-head.

Who are the people that are doing this? First, some of us who are ministers. There was a day when God spoke through our ministry. There was a day when, rising to plead, there was a passion in our words. There was a day when, as we proclaimed Jesus Christ, men and women flocked to the mercy seat. There was a day when, as we preached, we could see Him, and people knew that we saw Him. And now we preach the same sermons, and we use the same illustrations, and we use the same methods, and there is no power. And there are Church officers, who, in times gone by, testified for Jesus Christ in their homes. They had a family altar. They spoke the name of their children in their petitions. They went to Church, and as they rose to speak, everybody gave them the closest attention. And to-day the altar is gone, and power is gone with it, and they have not been at the church nor at the prayer-meeting for a month, and they have no power. There are Chris-

tian people to-day whose experience in other days could best be told in the words of the hymn, "O happy day that fixed my choice." And if there is any other hymn that could write their history, it is this one:

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my life, my soul, my all.*

You are without power to-day. You are not a soul winner. You have lost your influence over your husband. You have lost your influence on your children, you have lost your influence in the Church and in the city. The axe-head is gone. No power. What is the axe-head? Well, I should say the axe-head may be the conscious presence of Christ, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit of God, the Word of God burning in your life and ringing in your message. And you have lost it. The searching part of the text is this: Where fell it? What if the man who had lost the axe-head had said to the man of God, "I do not know where it fell. Down here, possibly. Maybe yonder." I think the man of God would have said, "When you find where it fell, come and tell me." And the man of God said, "Where fell it? And he showed him the place." There is the lesson for you. You know the place where you lost power. No minister is required to tell you. No evangelist need tell you. You know the place. You lost it when you neglected the Bible. You lost it when you crowded prayer into a corner. You lost it when you did not confess your sin. You lost it when you neglected the Church. You lost it when you were in league with the world. You lost it at the card-table. You lost it at the dance. You know where you lost it.

A friend of mine was speaking at an afternoon service in a certain city, when a man entered the building, clad in rags, and sat down in one of the pews. My friend went on with the service, when, suddenly the man sat up and said, "Sir, may I speak?" "Certainly," said my friend. The man said, "This is my father's church. He was an officer here. This is his pew. With six other boys I was in the Sunday-school here. Our Sunday-school teacher used to have us in her home on Saturday afternoons. She taught us the names of cards. Up to then we never knew them. Later, she taught us games of cards. Then after a while we said to her, 'Not so much lesson and more cards.' Then we forsook the Sunday-school, and while the others were at the school we were away playing cards. Sir (he said), of the seven boys, two died on the gallows; three of them are in prison for life; one of them is a fugitive from justice, and I am the other. Sir, if the officers of the law knew that I was here, I would be put in prison." Then, for a moment, standing perfectly still, he said, "All I have to say is that I would to God that my Sunday-school teacher had had a different influence." He walked out of the church, and my friend said, "We never saw him again. But there rose up a woman, dressed in black, who, as she started out into the aisle, staggered and fell; and as she fell, she said, 'My God, sir, I am the teacher.'"

Failing Christian, God's Unfailing Love Still Wants to Give Back the Lost Axe-head

You know where you lost it. But please let me say, if you are out of fellowship with God I have no unkind word for you. I know my own weakness too well. If you are away from Christ I have no sharp rebuke for you. I am a preacher of Jesus Christ. But I have this to say. Listen. If you have lost your power, God loves you. He loves you.

Commander Eva Booth tells of an instance in the middle western part of our country where a boy was arrested for the crime of murder. His old mother followed him to the cell, and sitting down by his side, said, "Jim, tell me now,

did you do it?" And the boy looked up into his mother's face, his lips trembling and his own face growing white, as he said, "Mother, I did not do it."

When the time of the trial came on, the judge said to the mother, "If you will persuade your boy to plead 'Guilty' we will be easy with him." "But, your Honor," she said, "He did not do it." The neighbors came in to sympathize with her, and she would smile and say, "But he did not do it."

The prosecuting attorney said to her, "If you will tell Jim to change his plea, the judge will be easy with him," and the mother said, "Thank you, sir, but he didn't do it." The boy was convicted and the day of the execution came. The chaplain made his way into the cell, and the shadow of the gallows was already upon the boy. The chaplain said to him, "Jim, you are facing eternity. Tell me, did you do it?" The boy was perfectly still for a moment, then raising his face he said, "Chaplain, I did do it. You go and tell my mother."

One of my friends, who knew him, said that the chaplain went over to her home, and the old mother knew what day it was. The shadows of the gallows was touching her, too. When the chaplain entered the room, she had her head down in her arms, and when he spoke to her she made no sign that she heard him. Then he said, "Mother, listen, Jim did it. He says he did it." And the mother did what my mother would have done, or yours. She gave one shudder, and dropped her head a little lower in her hands. Then raising up her face, down which the tears were streaming, she said, "Chaplain, go back as quickly as you can, and tell him that I love him." And that is God. Infinite in His mercy, matchless in His love. He loves you. I call you back to-day.

Sinner, Jesus Waits Today to Give You Forgiveness, Deliverance, Salvation

I have only one thing to say in conclusion. My message to-day is for the man who is not a Christian. He is deep down in sin, away in the blackness of despair. How are you going to get him up? Of course, in these days of worldly-wise men we have all sorts of suggestions. The political reformer comes along and tells us that we need better political conditions. Of course we do, but they can never take the place of salvation. The sociologist says that all the systems of men are wrong. He tells us to change our systems, and men will be better. Of course they will, but all the sociology in the world cannot save the sinner.

Then there are others who tell us that the axe-head is not off, but that we only think it is off. They tell us to just think it is on and to proceed to use the axe-handle and we will be all right. I am not against the political reformer; he has my sympathy and support. I am not against the sociologist; I believe in him. But I know only one way to get the sinner up. This is the way, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." There is no way to lift the sinner up except by the drawing power of Jesus Christ. Preach Him, sing Him, live Him. That is the secret. Then there is hope.

One night there came into one of the Missions in New York, a man who, because of his sin, was bent down like a dwarf. Naturally, he would stand as tall as I, but in his sin he was bowed down until he was not more than four feet high. Sin had touched his tongue and he could not speak plainly. He dropped down on the only knee he could bend, buried his face in his hands for a moment and said, "O God! God!" and suddenly the bands that had held him were snapped and he stood up as erect as I am standing now.

I know the man. I have had him in my house as a guest. In the Mission at the end of the year they always allow the men to have an anniversary. When this man's anniversary came around he did not read the lesson; he let another read it. He let another announce the hymn. When it came to the time of testimony he bowed down as he had been dwarfed in sin, and then, with every eye looking at him, he rose up and stood erect, his face shining, his eyes filled with tears.

It is that sort of salvation I

"Many Infallible Proofs"

(Continued from page 3)

Him face to face, including one group of over five hundred people who saw Him at one time. Read it again.

"And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once: of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time."

There is no hallucination here, no "vision." Too many honest, hardheaded sensible people saw Jesus Christ personally after His resurrection for it to be doubted.

Not only did the disciples see Jesus after His resurrection, but they put their hands upon Him, they felt of His body, they saw Him eat and drink before them. In Luke 24:37-43 we have an account of how Jesus convinced the unbelieving disciples that it was really He, risen in the flesh.

"But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. And he took it, and did eat before them."

It was not a ghost, a spirit, that appeared to the disciples! They saw His hands where the nails had torn them, and His feet, and felt the bones underneath. "A spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have," He said. Then further to prove that He was there, physically, literally before them, He called for food "and they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb." How fascinated and delighted they were to see Him pick the bones out of the broiled fish and eat it; they also saw Him eat the honeycomb, and lick the sweetness from His fingers! It was really Jesus, their own Saviour, the one they had seen and heard so often. He was really risen bodily from the dead! And they were convinced.

Poor doubting Thomas was not with the other disciples the day Jesus rose from the dead, and he declared that he would not believe—"Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe" (John 20:25). But when Jesus appeared to the disciples, then He offered all the proof that Thomas wanted. "Then said he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but

preach. Bound with a passion, you may be free. Held captive with a sin, you may be forgiven. Will you turn? I know where you made your mistake. You neglected your mother's pleading, you resisted your father's praying, you scorned your minister's preaching. That is the way you were lost.

Up in the Alps I saw here and there a black cross, and I said to my guide: "What does that mean?" He said: "It means that when a traveller slips to death on such a point as this, they raise a black cross." I wonder if there is to be placed a black cross where you are because you will reject Christ. I used that illustration in my old church in Philadelphia, and an old Scotch woman came up to me and said, "Pastor when you told that story a man in front of me dropped his head in his hands and began to sob, saying, 'I yield, I yield. I can hold out no more.' 'I wonder,' she said, 'if where he sat there could be placed a red cross.' What is it to be to-day? Black or red? Yes or no? Life or death? Acceptance or rejection? God help you."

(From the book, REVIVAL SERMONS, published by Fleming H. Revell Company, New York, N. Y. Used by permission. Price \$1.50.)

believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God" (John 20:27, 28).

Every honest inquirer, everyone who found it difficult to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead, had the proof presented to him.

There are other signs given by Jesus after His resurrection which are not recorded. For John 20:30, 31, following the account of how doubting Thomas was convinced of Christ's resurrection, tells us: "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, (Continued on page 10)

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"Many Infallible Proofs"

(Continued from page 9)

that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name."

These signs and evidences presented by the Saviour are part of the proof of His deity, because they prove His resurrection, literally, from the dead. And these evidences are written in the Bible that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and believing may have life through His name!

Yes, they were many "infallible proofs" by which Jesus showed Himself alive after His passion. And Acts 1:3 adds, "being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God."

Forty days this went on, Jesus appearing to His disciples, answering their questions, teaching them, giving them the Great Commission. Forty days it went on, and the doubting and fearing were convinced beyond any shadow of doubt. This was their own Saviour, risen from the dead. Jesus was with them long enough to explain to them all the principal Scriptures concerning Himself. He was

with them long enough to give detailed instructions about taking the Gospel to all the world. Forty days He was among the disciples and talked to them, and continually gave evidence of His bodily resurrection.

Literally hundreds of Christians saw Jesus alive after His resurrection. Over five hundred saw Him at one time.

Peter could well say, "We have not followed cunningly devised fables" (II Pet. 1:16), and John could properly boast that he only spoke of "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our own eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life" (I John 1:1).

Consider how overwhelming was that witness of literally hundreds of people who had seen Jesus after His resurrection, some of them again and again and again through a course of forty days' time! The Bible rule was, "in the mouth of two or three witnesses." Here were hundreds of witnesses. Many a man has been condemned to death on the testimony of one or two eyewitnesses.

Only twelve men are required to agree on the jury to settle any important case. Here literally hundreds of eyewitnesses agreed that Jesus arose from the dead. Not one person ever appeared to say that they had seen His dead body after the third day, nor to contradict any of the evidence.

The testimony of those witnesses—eyewitnesses, witnesses who had handled the Saviour, touched Him, felt the prints of the nails in His hands and feet, saw Him eat, communed with Him forty days—that testimony was stronger evidence than any case required before the Supreme Court of the United States or before any other court in the world. Any group of scientists with one-tenth of that much evidence would accept as absolute fact any matter so attested. The evidence is so overwhelming that only those who do not want to believe and do not check the evidence reject it. No wonder that the Bible declares that Jesus "showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs."

The Arguments Against the Resurrection of Christ Are Unbelievable and Silly and Obviously Biased

For over nineteen hundred years wicked people, enemies of Christ and of the Bible and of Christianity, have been trying with intense zeal to disprove the resurrection of Jesus Christ. An examination of these arguments of those who deny the resurrection of Christ is one of the strongest proofs that Jesus really did rise from the dead. Consider the following remarkable things about the infidels who deny the resurrection of Christ and their arguments:

(a) Consider who makes these arguments. The Jews who hated Jesus Christ and murdered Him were the first to deny His resurrection. Liars and murderers that they were, what honest person would believe their testimony, their unsupported word that Jesus did not rise from the dead? And down through the ages that is the kind of people who deny the resurrection of Christ. The wicked, the profane, the drunken, the ignorant, the haters of Christ and of God and of the Bible deny Christ's resurrection. Carl Marx denied Christ's resurrection. So did Adolph Hitler. So did Lenin and Stalin and Trotsky. So does the whole Communist party. The resurrection of Christ is denied in the tavern and the bawdyhouse. Infidels in the pulpit deny it, to be sure, and then favor godless atheism and Soviet Russia over the American way of life. Surely such people are not to be trusted, neither in their moral discernment nor their judgment.

Harry Emerson Fosdick denies the resurrection of Christ. But remember that he is not a Bible believer; he never worships Jesus; he takes the part of infidels. More than that, his judgment is not reliable. Remember that he, very shortly before the Pearl Harbor attack, boldly declared for pacifism, and against armament in America, saying that it was absurd to think that Japan would ever attack America. Who would risk his judgment? The people who deny the resurrection of Christ are not the people to believe on moral issues.

(b) The denials of Christ's resurrection have never been based on evidence, but always on prejudice. The bribed soldiers who guarded the tomb of Jesus said, "His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept." Well, if they slept, they could not tell who got the body. That testimony would not be received in any court as valid evidence. No man is a good witness to what takes place while he is asleep. Not a single person was ever found who declared that he had seen the body of Jesus after His third day in Joseph's tomb. Not a single Christian was ever found to confess that the apostles and other converts had conspired to pretend that Jesus had risen from the dead. Were these hundreds of people who said they saw Jesus alive all liars and deceivers? And would they go to their death for the lie? Such an idea is silly and unbelievable. Many an expedition has tried to find Joseph's tomb, and then to prove by chemical analysis that a body there de-

cayed. (Though even that would not prove that the body of Jesus was the one which decayed there.) But they have never found the slightest evidence to substantiate any such theory. The reason some people do not believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ is simply that they do not want to believe it, are determined not to believe it, despite the evidence.

(c) These suppositions invented by infidels who try to account for the apparent resurrection of Christ are silly. They are so silly and unconvincing that unbelievers themselves can never agree. They are always trying to find some new and, they hope, more plausible answer to the evidence that Christ rose from the dead. Every infidel, every modernist, has his own theory, but none of the theories satisfy even the infidels.

"His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept," said the soldiers. Then why did not the Jews find His body? They hated the Christians so much and the Christian movement was doing them so much harm, that surely they did everything in their power to find the body of Jesus. That would have stopped Christianity at its source. They never found any such body, never claimed to. In fact, the leading Jews themselves did not believe that Christ's body had been stolen away. Many of the chief priests themselves were converted later and others, though convinced in their minds that Jesus was the Messiah, still hated Him, as lost sinners do today when they reject Him.

One theory says that Jesus did not really die on the cross but only swooned, and after some time in the grave he revived and came forth and appeared to His disciples. They treated Him and He was restored to health. Consider first that this is only a guess, without any evidence in the world for it. Then, it is not reasonable to suppose that Jesus could be alive after being taken down from the cross. For six hours He had hung there. Before the crucifixion He had been scourged with a Roman cat-o'-nine-tails, which in itself sometimes produced death. Then when He gave up the ghost, openly said, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit," everybody was convinced that He was dead. They thrust a spear into His side and into His heart and there flowed out blood and water. Still He hung there on the cross until Joseph of Arimathea could go to see Pilate, and Pilate could be assured by the centurion that Jesus had been some time dead. Then Joseph took the body down from the cross. The body was wrapped in linen and spices and left in the tomb. The centurion declared He was dead. The soldiers believed Him dead. The Jewish rulers themselves were convinced that He was dead. Joseph of Arimathea thought so. Mary His mother believed it. All the disciples believed that He had died. Jesus Himself had declared again and again that He would die on the cross. In view of the spear in His side and witness of all the Old and New Testament, it is foolish to suppose that Jesus did not actually die on the cross.

Another theory of infidels is that the disciples had hallucinations and visions and simply thought they saw Jesus. But how strange that hundreds of people could have the same vision! And how strange that Jesus should appear to them again and again! And it is particularly improbable that the disciples should have hallucinations and think they saw Jesus alive when none of them expected Him to rise from the dead. All of them had to be convinced, against their former convictions, that He was really alive from the dead. And hallucinations do not reappear again and again, day after day, to hundreds of people, for forty days, and always remain the same! And hallucinations do not eat and drink in the presence of people, as Jesus did! No, such a silly supposition cannot merit the support of intelligent people!

Other wicked people say that the disciples agreed, all of them, to lie about it and to say that they saw Jesus. But consider that these disciples were not liars. They were good people. Enemies of Jesus were haters and murderers and liars, but not these good

men and women who were willing to die for the Gospel and went everywhere preaching the Word. They gave up home and comforts and friends, they spared not their lives unto death in order to witness that Jesus rose from the dead. To believe that it was only a lie, and that every single one of them stayed with the lie until his death, is silly and unbelievable. Besides, believing a lie does not make drunkards sober, does not make harlots pure, does not make profane people holy. What the Gospel did for New Testament Christians and what the Gospel has done for millions down through the years could not be the result of a lie.

All the silly arguments of those who try to explain away the proof that Christ rose from the dead are not worthy of the credence of thoughtful people of the world.

The evidence that convinced all New Testament Christians and has convinced many millions of others since that time is enough to convince any earnest and honest person who is willing to do right and has his heart open to the truth of God.

The One Best Way to Know That Jesus Is Alive Today Is to Try Him as Saviour!

I do not say that wicked men who do not love the truth and do not plan to follow it will always be convinced of the deity of Christ. God turns people over to a reprobate mind that they may believe a lie and be damned, when they repeatedly and intentionally reject the light He gives. That is the clear teaching of Romans 1:21-32. Why should God reveal His truth to people who would not follow it if they had it? John 3:19-21 says, "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God." The reason infidels and modernists are condemned is not because they cannot believe the truth, but rather because they will not believe the truth.

But those who want to know the truth and are willing to follow it can find the truth. If you want to know quickly and surely whether Jesus rose from the dead, whether He is the Saviour, God incarnate, whether the Bible is His Word and true, then set out to read the Bible carefully and prayerfully. Read the Gospel of John. Pray as you read for God to give you light to understand His Word. Ask God to help you see the truth and to follow it. Make up your mind to love and obey the true God when you find Him, to accept Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord, just as soon as God will show you clearly that He is the Saviour. And coming with such an open heart you will find that God will meet you. You will find that God's sweet promise, "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you," is true.

Try God out on His precious promises and see if the living Christ does not prove Himself to you. Thousands of answered prayers have proven to me that the Christ of the Bible lives today. I have risked my home, my happiness, my honor, my everything on His promises, and thank God He has proved Himself again and again. I know that Jesus is the resurrected living Lord. And you can know the same, too, if you seek God with all your heart.

Consider again these precious promises:

"If any man willeth to do his will, he shall know of the teaching, whether it is of God, or whether I speak from myself" (John 7:17 R.V.).

"Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord" (Hosea 6:3).

"Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you" (James 4:8).

"And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart" (Jer. 29:13). There are truly "many infallible proofs" of the resurrection of Christ, and all who want to know may know for themselves that Christ is risen, yes, may know Him as Saviour too, and Lord!

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The Sin God Cannot Forgive

(Continued from page 1)

a high position in Heaven. In the book of Isaiah, we find a record of the beginning of this wicked sin.

"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit."—Isa. 14:12-15.

He did not believe God was Almighty. He thought he could overthrow God and take His throne away from Him. He thought he could set himself up as God. His unbelief caused him to rebel, and those who rebelled with him were cast out to be reserved unto judgment.

"And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."—Jude 6. Satan caused unbelief in the heart of human beings in the Garden of Eden.

"Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons."—Gen. 3:1-7.

Satan lied to the woman in the garden when he said, "Ye shall not surely die." In this he was running true to form, because Jesus said that he always lied. "He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44).

Eve readily believed him because she knew nothing about death. She had not experienced any of the dread realities of it. Eve had never looked upon a face cold in death, never had seen a funeral parlor or a funeral procession, never had seen a graveyard nor read an obituary notice nor heard a funeral sermon. Until that time no one had died.

Satan no longer tells people they will not die. People know better; they realize that death is abroad in the land. You cannot pick up a daily newspaper which does not contain obituary notices; you cannot go to any town of any size in which there is not an undertaking parlor. You can hear a funeral sermon every day. You will not travel far on the highway without meeting a hearse, and cemeteries dot the landscape. Today Satan has changed the wording a little bit, and he says: "You will not die for a long time; you have plenty of time. Don't let that preacher get you all excited; take your time and think it over. Be sure you know what you are doing. There is plenty of time." Multitudes believe his lie and go out into a lost eternity unprepared to meet God. Death came as a result of sin, and all have sinned, so death is the portion of all men.

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."—Rom. 5:12.

II. What Unbelief Is

Unbelief is wilful ignorance. "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God."—Psa. 14:1.

The fool said this "in his heart." It was said because of a wicked sinful heart which did not want to accept revealed truth. The sinful heart is like that: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9).

For anyone to say there is no God is to wilfully and deliberately deny revealed truth.

I attended the 1952 Founder's Week Conference at the Moody Bible Institute. In one of the Conference sessions the Deputation Secretary of the African Inland Mission spoke. During his message he made a startling observation when he said, "I have never met a man in Africa who didn't believe in God. You have to meet an educated fool in America to find a man like that."

Dr. R. A. Torrey told this interesting story in one of his sermons:

"Years ago a great Frenchman of science was crossing the Arabian desert under the leadership of an Arab guide. When the sun was setting in the west, the guide spread his praying-rug down upon the ground and began to pray. When he had finished, the man of science stood looking at him with scorn and asked him what he was doing. He said, 'I am praying.' 'Praying! Praying to whom?' 'To Allah, to God.' The man of science said, 'Did you ever see God?' 'No.' 'Did you ever hear God?' 'No.' 'Did you ever put out your hands and touch God and feel Him?' 'No.' 'Then you are a great fool to believe in a God you never saw, a God you never heard, a God you never put out your hand and touched.'

"The Arab guide said nothing. They retired for the night, rose early the next morning, and a little before sunrise they went out from the tent. The man of science said to the Arab guide, 'There was a camel round this tent last night.' With a peculiar look in his eye, the Arab said, 'Did you see the camel?' 'No.' 'Did you hear the camel?' 'No.' 'Did you put out your hand and touch the camel?' 'No.' 'Well, you are a strange man of science to believe in a camel you never saw, a camel you never heard, a camel you never put out your hand and touched.' 'Oh, but,' said the other, 'Here are his footprints all around the tent.' Just then the sun was rising in all its oriental splendor, and with a graceful wave of his barbaric hand, the guide said, 'Behold the footprints of the Creator, and know that there is a God.'

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard."—Psa. 19:1-3.

The orderliness of nature proves there is a God.

There is no excuse for not believing in God.

"Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."—Rom. 1:19, 20.

David declared that he proved that God is. "For I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psa. 139:14).

The wondrous human body proves that it could not have just happened. There must have been a Creator.

Unbelief is expressed in self-righteousness. People who will not believe the Bible trust in their own righteousness. The Bible which they refuse to believe points out the folly of their unbelief.

"There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness."—Prov. 30:12.

The Apostle Paul warned of the folly of blind unbelief.

"For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves; but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise."—II Cor. 10:12.

Jesus said that our own ideas of righteousness were not pleasing to the Lord.

"And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided him. And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is

The Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 2)

ship there with Dr. Roberson and his staff and the eager Christian students.

The Minnesota Fundamental's Conference

Last week I spent three days (February 25, 26, 27) at Minneapolis, speaking at the Annual Minnesota Fundamental's Conference. Here hundreds of ministers and other Christian workers assemble from all over the state and from nearby states. Other speakers included Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., Dr. Louis Talbot, Dr. Walter L. Wilson, etc. Music included Dr. Lance Latham at the piano, Howard Jones of Radio HCJB, Quito, Ecuador, with his trumpet. The crowds were large, God blessed many hearts, the fellowship was wonderful. It was my joy also to speak at Northwestern School at an extended chapel period and three times over Radio KTIS.

Services were held in the large First Mission Covenant Church, Dr. Paul Rees, the beloved pastor. Dr. Rees is president of the National Association of Evangelicals, and was a gracious host. Dr. Richard V. Clearwaters, of Conservative Baptist Association, Third Baptist Church of Minneapolis, and Dean of Northwestern Seminary, is the president of the ensuing year.

An Ideal Study Book for Young People's Meetings, New Converts' Classes

We're having many comments on that great book by Dr. R. A. Torrey which the Sword of the Lord Publishers has recently republished. The title is, *How To Obtain Fullness of Power*. The chapters have recently been run in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Handsomely bound in hard board covers, printed with two-colored cover, this attractive book is ideal for classes for young converts, for use in young people's programs, etc. Many a pastor would do well to use the five chapters for prayer meetings in his church. Women's societies might use them likewise. I hope every pastor will get a copy, particularly young preachers. The price \$1.50, from The Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois, or from your book dealer.

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abomination in the sight of God."—Luke 16:14, 15.

An unbeliever cannot please God, no matter how good a life he may live.

III. Some Bible Tragedies Which Were Directly the Result of Unbelief

Unbelief prevented the Israelites who were delivered from Egyptian bondage from entering the promised land.

"But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness? And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief."—Heb. 3:17-19.

Unbelief caused the death of Lot's sons-in-law in Sodom.

"And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law."—Gen. 19:14.

Unbelief caused the death of the ungodly at the time of the flood.

"And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly."—II Peter 2:5.

Unbelief set at naught the message of God's prophet.

"Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?"—Isa. 53:1.

(Continued on page 12)

Why don't you get one and have it at hand to encourage the whole family to take a hearty interest in this great Christian project? Children should be taught the joy of giving. It should be made a matter for family worship and prayer in many homes. It is easy to save dimes and insert them in the coin card. Then when the sixty dimes have been collected, it is easy to turn them into check or money order or currency and forward to the Sword of the Lord Building Fund. If you have children, or if you are hard run for ready cash, don't miss this easy and happy way of giving to please Christ.

Many are helping in a great Easter Offering. We are asking God's people to send \$18,500, needed, all due and payable by Easter Sunday. We have prayed and God has given assurance of His help. If we fail, it will be because somebody did not listen to God, did not let God tell him what to do! Make sure that you ask the Lord's guidance. What does He want you to do about our great Easter Building Fund Offering? We are in the Singing-Spiral Building. We must pay for it. It is needed in this soul winning, world-wide work. For every cash Building Fund Offering of \$2 or more sent before April 10, we send free my big 60-page Easter pamphlet with two-colored cover on *The Resurrection of Jesus Christ*. We printed one for you! Send your offering and get it at once.

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The Sin God Cannot Forgive

(Continued from page 11)

Unbelief rejected the message of John the Baptist.

"For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed not; but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him."—Matt. 21:32.

Unbelief prevented people from trusting Jesus.

"But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him."—John 12:37.

IV. Why the Sin of Unbelief is So Wicked

This sin is so terribly wicked because it causes people to think, act and talk foolishly. It causes people to reject the deity of the Lord Jesus. Unbelievers will reject the virgin birth of the Lord Jesus. The Jews in His day said, "We be not born of fornication" (John 8:41)—inferring that He was.

In spite of all the proof, they rejected His sinlessness. "Then answered the Jews, and said unto him, say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil" (John 8:48).

They would not believe that He was the Son of God.

"Again the high priest asked him... Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven. Then the high priest rent his clothes, and saith what need we any further witnesses? Ye have heard the blasphemy: what think ye? And they all condemned him to be guilty of death."—Mark 14:61-64.

Their wicked hearts of unbelief would not permit them to believe Jesus was all He claimed to be. His works proved all that He claimed for Himself; still they refused to believe. They even went so far as to pay the soldiers to lie about His resurrection.

"Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done. And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept."—Matt. 28:11-13.

Unbelief undermines the plan of salvation. It substitutes its own plan in place of the plan of God. In reality it says God did not tell the truth. This is a serious sin.

"Nay, but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God?"—Rom. 9:20.

Unbelief rejects the Word of God and depends on its own theories. This encourages man to question the entire Bible. Unbelief will paralyze the mind and the spirit.

"And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient."—Rom. 1:28.

V. The Results of Unbelief

Unbelief will cause a person to die in sin.

"I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins."—John 8:24.

Refusal to believe on the Lord Jesus will result in eternal separation from God in the awful lake of fire.

Unbelief gives a false security. The unbeliever does not accept the Word of God and therefore pays no attention to its warnings. If he does not believe the Bible, he does not believe what God says about sin.

"The wages of sin is death."—Rom. 6:23.

He thinks he can sin and get away with it. The Bible says: "Be sure your sin will find you out" (Num. 32:23).

He doesn't believe sin will produce a like harvest. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Gal. 6:7).

The seed which is sowed "to his flesh, shall of the flesh reap corruption," (Gal. 6:8). Not alone does the sinner himself reap this corruption, but his iniquities are visited upon his children, and children's children.

"... I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me."—Deut. 5:9.

On the other hand, those who "sow to the spirit," as in the case of the godly preacher, Jonathan Edwards, leave behind them generations of godly children.

The wrath of a holy, sin-avenging God rests on the unbeliever.

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."—John 3:36.

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."—Rom. 1:18-20.

"He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace? For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompence, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."—Heb. 10:28-31.

God looks upon your rejection of His Son as trampling under foot His precious blood. He will not let you get away with it. It is a far worse offence than spitting in the face of a fellow man. It is treating the sacrifice of Jesus with contempt when you refuse to trust Him as your Saviour.

Unbelief is the tap root of all sin and keeps the heart's door closed against the Lord Jesus.

If you will only open that door He will save you, but if you keep it shut you will be eternally doomed.

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."—Rev. 3:20.

Evangelist John Bray tells the story of a wealthy family who at one time lived in Chicago. They had a daughter who was afflicted with a strange disease. They sent to Vienna, Austria, for a famous specialist and paid him a fee of \$25,000 to treat their daughter. The doctor was an elderly man, and to aid his health he was in the habit of taking a walk each day. In order to be protected from a sudden storm he had his limousine follow him at a short distance.

There was another lady there who had a daughter afflicted with the same disease as the daughter of the rich family. She wrote the doctor and begged him to come to her house and treat her daughter. She asked the people of the church where she attended to pray that God would send the doctor to her house.

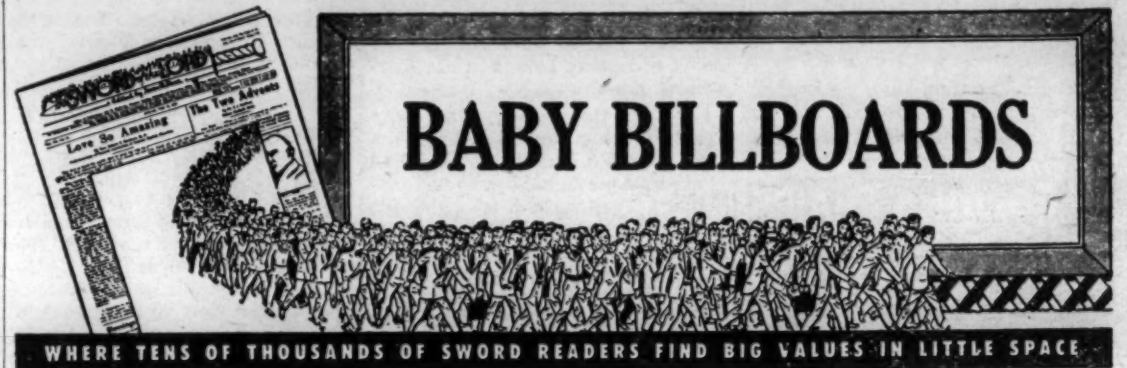
One day the doctor was out walking and suddenly rain began to fall. He looked around for the limousine but it was nowhere in sight. Then he saw a house with a front porch, and as quickly as he could he made his way up onto the porch. Soon a lady came out and began to pull the wicker furniture back to the side of the house and turn it upside down to protect it. The doctor asked her for permission to stand on the porch and she granted permission, went back

into the house and slammed the door. Soon the limousine came down the street and stopped in front of the house. A uniformed chauffeur got out and came up on the porch and put an overcoat over the doctor's shoulders, then holding an umbrella over his head he escorted him out to the limousine. That evening the whole story came out in the paper. It told of the doctor's experience of the afternoon and how he was chilled by the storm and told of the reception by the lady on whose porch he took refuge from the storm.

When she read about it that evening, the lady immediately went to the hotel to apologize and get the doctor to come back and treat her daughter. When she reached the hotel it was only to find that the doctor had already left for New York where he would get on a ship to go back to Austria. The woman cried: "O God, to think that he was right at my house, he was right at my door, and I refused to ask him in!" It is said she became mentally unbalanced and continuously sobbed: "O God, he was at my door, and I didn't ask him in!"

Jesus is at your heart's door. Will you ask Him in? If you don't, you will sob in the insane asylum of eternity, "He was right at my door, and I didn't ask Him in!"

My friend, do not steel yourself and shut Jesus out of your heart and life. Don't, I beg you, go on in the wicked sin of unbelief. Turn to Him the best you know how, surrendering your heart and soul to Him. He will save you and provide a home in Heaven for you. Won't you do it now, and let me know? I shall feel richly repaid for all the labor of writing this message to you, if you will.



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(signed) Mr. J. H. St. Helens, Lancashire England

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